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NOVEMBER 23, 2000 [53.15]

Martlet

ELECTION COVERAGE

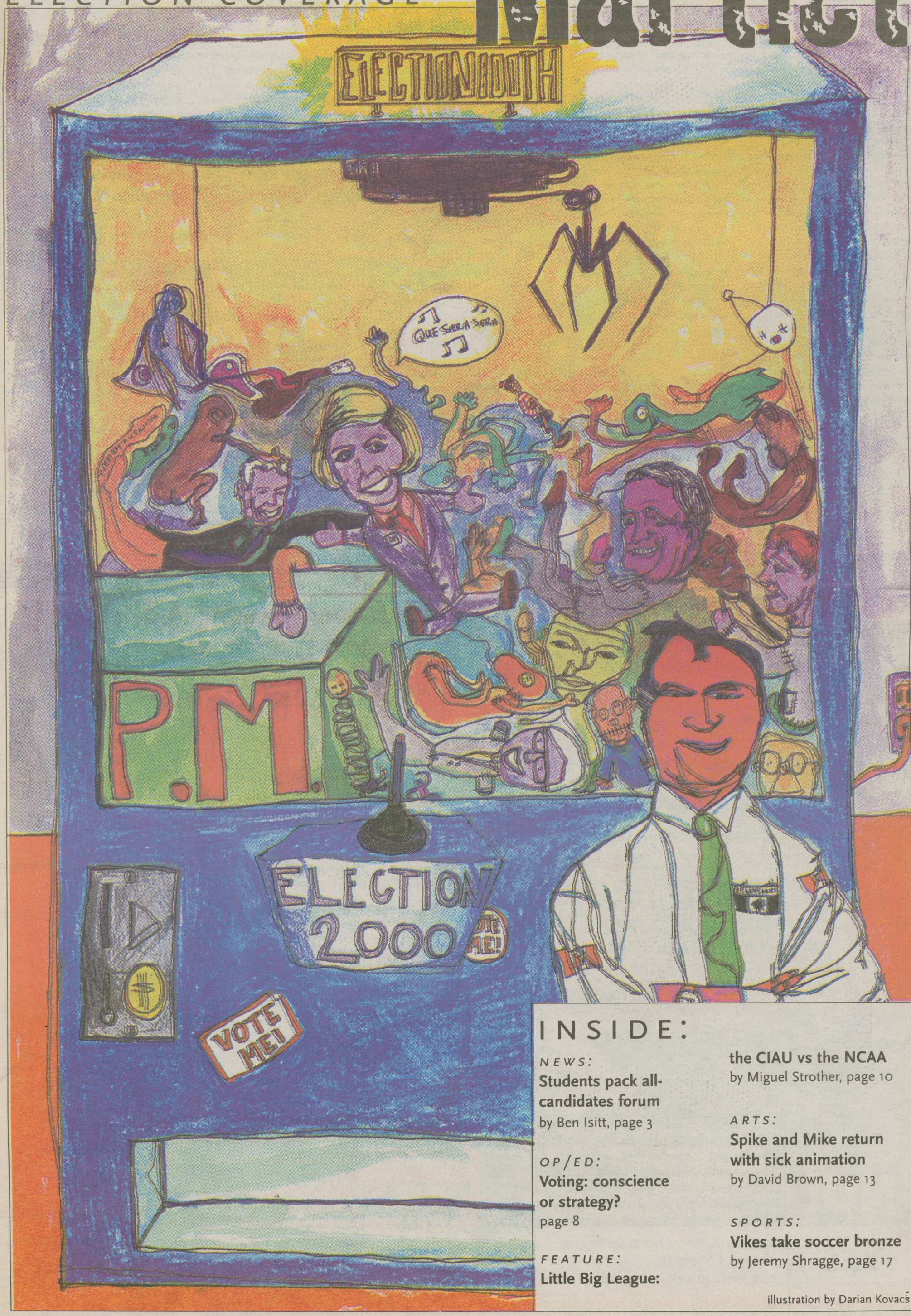

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illustration by Darian Kovacs

Green promises: Victoria candidates speak on the environment

by Kris Elder

Where do candidates in Victoria stand on environmental issues?

Liberal MP and environment minister David Anderson outlines his local efforts: "I've worked on land acquisition, protected areas such as Garry Oak meadows, and I've been involved in Gulf Island parks protection and put $30 million towards land acquisition."

Anderson says that local projects for species at risk include $500,000 spent for marmots on Vancouver Island and $250,000 for marbled murrelet protection.

Meanwhile Green Party leader Joan Russow would like to create a light-rail transit line, make Victoria a genetically engineered foods-free zone, ensure safe drinking water with less chemicals, and encourage water conservation and conversion of lawns for organic food production.

Progressive Conservative candidate Brian Burchill is concerned that the proposed natural gas pipeline across the Georgia Strait to Vancouver Island will cause pollution and health problems.

"We can spend all this money to create this pipeline and produce local jobs, but it's only good until the gas runs out. Why not put money into tidal and wind turbines as a lasting infrastructure and long-term investment?"

NDP candidate David Turner also opposes the proposed gas line and agrees that Vancouver Island should experiment with alternative energy sources such as thermal, solar, and tidal power.

Canadian Alliance candidate Bruce Hallsor supports the current federal environmental review of the pipeline project, a review which Anderson called several weeks before the election.

Green leader Russow also sees full-sewage treatment as an issue in Victoria. Turner agrees, saying the sewage debate is not over. "It's a scandal that Victoria still doesn't have sewage treatment, that Anderson has been opposed to it as environment minister."

On a national level, the Liberals' Species at Risk Act, which died on paper when the election was called, has the general support of all parties. Hallsor emphasizes the importance of having compensation programs for landowners who experience loss of commercial income due to having endangered species on their land.

Turner would like to see independent scientists, not politicians, have the final say in what species are considered at risk.

According to Jamie Woods, operator of wildcanada.net, a Canmore, Alberta-based website that supports conservationists in influencing government decision-making, the Liberals were elected in 1997 on an endangered species act promise that failed to materialize.

"We want to keep them accountable, to get out the message that they haven't done enough," says Woods.

Anderson, however, is positive Parliament will soon pass the act. "We will use closure instead of consensus this time around to pass the SARA."

Climate change and reducing greenhouse gas emissions in Canada are also important issues that won't go away. Russow laments the failure of the government to implement the Kyoto Protocol to decrease greenhouse gas emissions. "We're way off target. All the other parties have caved in to the coal, oil, gas and automobile industries on the issue of climate change."

She says the Green Party will implement the 1992 Kyoto Protocol, which called for reducing greenhouse gas emissions to six per cent below 1990 level emissions, as well as conserving old growth forests and bogs that act as carbon-absorbing zones.

> "More tourists come here to see whales than have tea at the Empress. What makes us wealthy is our natural environment."
>
> *-Canadian Alliance candidate Bruce Hallsor*

Anderson is confident the Liberals will pull through on their Kyoto promises. "We will achieve the new targets agreed to at the Hague without appreciative economic difficulty, through negotiated methods such as compliance mechanisms and international trading of pollution credits."

According to the Liberal's Red Book, these target levels will be reached between 2008 and 2012.

Hallsor agrees with the proposal at the Hague, in which wealthier countries like Canada can trade greenhouse gas credits with other countries. "However, I disagree with the federal Liberals unilaterally signing international agreements such as the Kyoto Protocol without talking to the provinces and without firm measures to implement them."

Turner disagrees with allowing countries to modify the Kyoto Protocol to include the transfer of credits.

"It accommodates larger, more industrial countries with forests at the expense of others. Instead of reducing emissions, they use their money to avoid having drastic reductions."

Burchill says Canada has failed to live up to its promises at Kyoto. "The PC's address this through our Safe Air and Water Act."

Russow has strong words for her opponents, however. "How can the major parties say they are concerned about the environment if they promote practices such as nuclear energy, the automobile industry, and genetically engineered foods?" Russow said. "We have done an analysis of corporate donations to political parties and found that all parties accept donations from major polluters and the correlation between these donations and the party policies is evident."

Burchill criticizes the fact that trade organizations such as the World Trade Organization often overrule Canada's environmental regulations. "The PCs or any other government can have the best intentions for clean air regulations, but a higher authority can overrule us. The primary issue for me is Canadian sovereignty, since foreign and corporate interests have more control than we do."

Burchill's views differ from his party since the PCs support trade agreements. Although he considers the interconnectedness of nations through globalization and trade to be beneficial, he criticizes corporations for putting profits and shareholders ahead of environmental and health concerns.

"I would like to see our natural legacy preserved as much as possible, for it is an important economic resource in the world economy as well," says Hallsor. "More tourists come here to see whales than have tea at the Empress. What makes us wealthy is our natural environment."

Turner says the NDP wants to clean up Canada's air and water while expanding public transit and green incentives, rather than giving tax breaks to corporations. He points out that Canada is the only country in the G-8 that does not fund local transit initiatives.

www.wildcanada.net
www.bcendangeredspecies.org
www.davidsuzuki.org
www.sierraclub.ca/national/green-election

THERE ARE TWO CHOICES IN THIS FEDERAL ELECTION

On one side, the Liberals and Reform-Alliance.

The Liberals and Reform-Alliance have made tax cuts for the rich their priority.

David Anderson and **the Liberals cut $5.2 billion from education funding.**

No wonder classes are overcrowded, courses have long waitlists, and student debt has doubled from $13,000 to $25,000 since they took office.

Stockwell Day and the Alliance are even worse: "If the federal government thinks it has the fiscal capacity to help students with college loans, then they have too much fiscal capacity."

Stockwell Day, *National Post*, May 23, 2000

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As a University of Victoria teacher, David Turner saw first hand the effects of David Anderson & the Liberal's funding cuts. In 1996, David Turner joined thousands of Victoria students at the CFS national day of action against funding cuts.

Reform-Alliance & the Liberals say NO!	David Turner & the NDP say YES
• to needs-based grants to reduce student debt • to restoring funding for post-secondary institutions • to interest-free student loans • to reduced tuition fees • to the environment & tough national standards for safe food, clean drinking water, & clear air	• to needs-based grants to reduce student debt • to restoring funding for post-secondary institutions • to interest-free student loans • to reduced tuition fees • to the environment & tough national standards for safe food, clean drinking water, & clear air
YES • to tax cuts for the rich at the expense of social programs • to American-style health care	NO ! • to tax cuts for the rich at the expense of social programs • to American-style health care

Authorized by John Cossoms, Official Agent for David Turner NDP 2000

Hundreds attend candidates forum

by Ben Isitt

Four hundred students and community members crammed into the SUB's Michelle Pujol room on Nov. 21 for an all-candidates forum sponsored by the University of Victoria Students' Society.

Vying to represent the Victoria riding in the House of Commons were UVic social work professor and NDP candidate David Turner, Progressive Conservative Brian Burchill, Green Party leader Joan Russow, Environment Minister and incumbent Liberal MP David Anderson, and Canadian Alliance candidate Bruce Hallsor.

"We need to move toward free tuition," Russow told the crowd of people lined up into the SUB foyer. "The money is there... Education must be made a priority."

She advocated against corporate funding in favour of a fully funded public system, and called for the reinstatement of a grants program.

Hallsor said federal funding should be increased by $800 million per year and spoke in favour of national standards on education, but he also endorsed an income-contingent loan scheme, which the Canadian Federation of Students says penalizes low-income earners who end up paying more for their education because of cumulative interest payments. Burchill also endorsed such a plan, adding that tax breaks for students were the answer.

MP Anderson said the Liberals were committed to education. "We cut back in the area of transfers to the provinces by 13 per cent," he conceded, saying it was necessary in order to eliminate the deficit, but said his government would improve Canada's international position in research and development funding from fifteenth to fifth now that large surpluses were on the horizon.

The NDP's Turner criticized the Liberal record on education, saying that after seven years under the Liberal government the average student debt has increased from $15,000 to $25,000.

"Canada has the third highest tuition fees in the industrialized world," Turner said. "Canadians are graduating into poverty."

He said the NDP would replace the Millennium Scholarship Fund, which only supports seven per cent of students, with a Canada Accessibility Fund to provide needs-based grants. He said his party would make student loans interest-free, and that any interest paid since 1995 would be subtracted from the overall amount owed. He advocated for a freeze on tuition across the country and said he would fight to block the formation of "private, for-profit universities."

Despite large contingents of Alliance and Liberal supporters, the majority of those in attendance were students who enthusiastically applauded both Russow and Turner. Most of the debate consisted of questions raised from the floor. Topics ranged from the Alliance's vague position on two-tier healthcare to free trade, foreign policy, and nuclear ships visiting Victoria

"The Canadian government must ban all berthing of nuclear vessels in every harbour across the country," Russow said, adding that internationally, $800 billion is spent on the military each year. She called for at least $200 million to be transferred immediately from the Canadian military budget to education. Turner called for Canada's withdrawal from NATO and for a stronger United Nations, while Hallsor said the military was "underfunded."

photo by Richard Warrington

A number of attendees raised the question of free trade. Russow called for the abolition of NAFTA and the dismantling of the WTO, arguing that new international agreements were needed that would respect the environment and human rights.

MP Anderson defended free-trade agreements, suggesting that trade increases living standards in developing nations. Hallsor said the Alliance "is in favour of free trade," adding that new agreements are needed "so that we have less obstacles to trade in the world."

Turner disagreed.

"Healthcare is up for grabs. Education is up for grabs. Everything we think of as our national identity is on the table," he said, suggesting a new people's movement must defeat the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATTS), just as citizens organized to defeat the Multilateral Agreement on Investment (MAI).

"Wealth does not trickle down to the people who earn the lowest incomes in our country," Turner said. "These trade agreements increase the gap between rich and poor."

Both Anderson and Hallsor defended their parties' proposed tax cuts of $100 and $125 respectively, on the grounds such measures stimulate the economy. "We've got to have a strong economy that churns out some surplus for social programs," Anderson said.

But Turner suggested Liberal cuts to capital gains and corporate taxes only benefit the rich. He said the NDP would implement an inheritance tax, an excess profits tax, and a Tobin Tax on the speculative transfer of capital. People earning less than $15,000 would not be taxed under an NDP government.

While so-called "fringe candidates" from the Natural Law and Marijuana parties were prevented from participating in the debate, they were allowed to address the crowd at both the beginning and end of the event, as was independent candidate Lorenzo Bouchard.

In their closing remarks, both Burchill and Turner argued against 'strategic voting.' "This is not a two-way race," Burchill said. "This is wide open. The argument of a wasted vote is a wasted argument."

UVic professor Turner agreed. "People need to vote with their hearts," he said. "Rather than say 'I want to vote against someone,' we want you to vote for someone. When we hold the balance of power in Ottawa, we will hold the government's feet to the fire to keep its promises."

Chretien comes to town

by Miguel R. MacDonald

Victoria gave Prime Minister Jean Chretien a mixed welcome when his tour bus pulled into town Nov.18. While about 500 supporters flocked to hear the Liberal leader speak, hundreds more gathered on the sidewalk in front of the Coast Victoria Harbourside Hotel with protest signs in hand.

Chretien was in town to bolster the re-election campaign of Liberal MP and Environment Minister David Anderson, the only Liberal MP on Vancouver Island. The Prime Minister also trumped the cards for five other island Liberal candidates.

Meanwhile, protesters lined the sidewalks on both sides of Kingston Street in front of the hotel. A crowd of leaky condo owners, Free Tibet protesters, animal-rights activists, healthcare activists, medicinal-marijuana supporters and workers from the ill-fated Youbou sawmill all shouted their message in turn.

The protesters were met with a line of mounted Victoria police, patrol cars and uniformed RCMP officers who kept the protesters ten feet back from the hotel's front entrance. Undercover officers dressed in long black trench coats circulated through the crowd of protesters. Even ticket holders were escorted back to the sidewalk by police officers who claimed they did not have adequate tickets.

"In light of the APEC situation I would never discuss security with the RCMP," Anderson spokesperson Steve Vander Wal told *the Martlet*.

The crowd was mostly made up of workers from the Youbou sawmill on Lake Cowichan who called out, "exporting logs is exporting jobs," and "who let the logs out," playing on the song "Who Let the Dogs Out" by the Baha Men.

The Youbou sawmill is slated for shut down next year, putting 220 people out of work. Another 600 jobs are expected to fall into the vacuum as the mill's absense effects the overall economy in the Lake Cowichan area.

"People figure it doesn't affect them because they are not in forestry, but it has a damaging affect," said Darlene Mancell, who held her ground in front of the hotel until the campaign busses pulled away. She said she was there to appeal to the Liberal government to stop allowing forestry companies to abuse the forestry industry through free trade.

Mancell explained that current free-trade regulations do not put any restrictions on Canadian exports of raw logs to the U.S., but treats Canadian lumber very differently, charging $148 per 1000 board-feet exported to the States.

Meanwhile, Liberal rhetoric was ablaze inside the building. "We have only one real choice, to vote for the Liberals," Chretien said.

Steve Vander Wal, communications advisor for David Anderson's re-election committee, called the event a big success.

He added that the event, scheduled to start at 10:30 a.m., had to be closed to the public just before noon due to overcrowding.

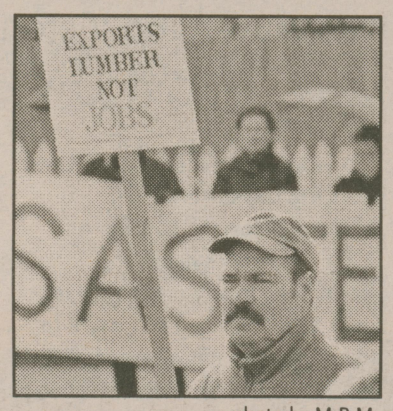

photo by M.R.M.

"We are here because [Chretien] talks about the minority people," said Jawanda Mukhtar, who was waiting in line with four other companions. "He's good for minority and immigrant people. He's better than Alliance, that's why we're here."

Muhktar's party of five was turned away when they got to the door because the event was overcrowded.

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Get Informed. Find out where the candidates stand on issues that are important to you like education funding and tuition fees. The Students' Society is hosting a forum where you can meet the candidates and "pick their brains" on **Tuesday November 21st** at 7:00pm.

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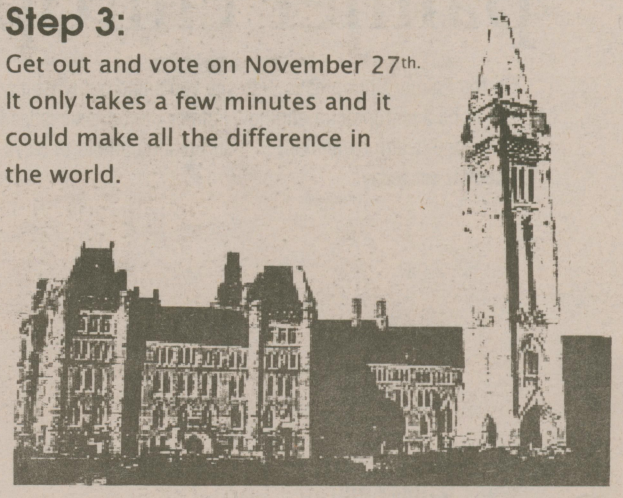

For more information contact your Students' Society at 721-8366 or drop by the Resource Centre.

Allegations of racism haunt the Alliance

Doug Christie rallies for Alliance in Edmonton

"He's the last best hope for Western Canada. If Ontario rejects him, it would be the last time any reasonable person in Western Canada would be interested in a federal election."

Doug Christie on Stockwell Day

by Ben Isitt

As the federal election campaign enters the home stretch, the Canadian Alliance has come under attack for what some perceive to be racism.

Victoria lawyer Doug Christie held a rally in Edmonton on Nov. 18 to voice his support for the Alliance, and a candidate for the party had to resign after warning political science students at the University of Winnipeg of an "Asian Invasion" at universities in Vancouver and Victoria.

"I know that Mr. Christie and his group are organizing a meeting," Prime Minister Jean Chretien said last week. "Are these people bigots? This group, in my sense, they are."

His immigration minister, Elinor Caplan, went as far as to call the Alliance a haven for "Holocaust deniers, prominent bigots and racists."

Christie, who includes neo-Nazi publisher Ernst Zundel and antisemitic school teacher Jim Keegstra among his clientele, joined the Alliance last September and attended a barbecue for Stockwell Day at the Cedar Hill Golf Club in mid-August.

At the Nov. 18 Edmonton rally, labeled the "Parliament of Western Canada," Christie told a crowd of 35 supporters that a vote for the Liberals will "help the case of western separatism as never before."

He said earlier that a Day victory was the West's last chance for recognition, and that a loss would kindle the flame of separatism.

"He's the last best hope for Western Canada," Christie said. "If Ontario rejects him, it would be the last time any reasonable person in Western Canada would be interested in a federal election."

photo by Ben Isitt

Christie at an Alliance barbecue.

But the Alliance party distanced itself from Christie, revoking his membership when it learned of the event last month.

"We're not supporting the rally," campaign spokesperson Paul Fitzgerald told the *Globe and Mail*.

The event took place in the same auditorium where, twenty years earlier, 2,800 supporters had rallied to the cause of a youthful Doug Christie, the leader of the fledgling Western Canada Concept party, committed to "the development and protection of a genuine national culture true to our existing European heritage."

When a reporter at the event asked whether he was a Holocaust denier, Christie said he had no position on the death of six million Jews. But a December 1994 article in his organization's newsletter appears to contradict this assertion.

"We demonize Hitler," Christie wrote at the time. "We motivate millions to believe that the fratricidal war was justified by the holocaust. We make a compulsory state religion, the great holocause museum, where children learn to hate their ancestors."

In a *National Post* article last May, Christie said he shared most of Day's conservative social values and was a close friend of Day's father, Stockwell Sr.

"I call it the Asian Invasion... Our own Canadian students actually could not even get into some of our university programs in Vancouver and Victoria."

Betty Granger, Canadian Alliance candidate

The Alliance leader's father wrote a letter to Christie's Western Separatist Papers in January 1995 railing against "co-habitating sodomites." In an August 1996 letter, Stock Sr. complained that a visit to an immigration office gave him "the impression that we were at a family reunion for the Harlem Globe Trotters."

"What the hell is going on!" he asked his readers, before continuing with a string of figures. "In 1994, immigration had more than doubled to 217,344 yet the numbers from Europe, the U.S.A. and Australia had dropped from 95,610 to 45,400, from 93 per cent to 21 per cent," Stockwell Sr. wrote. "In the same period, Asia, Africa, South America, the Caribbean, Mexico and 'others' ballooned from 8,500 to 171,000, that is from eight per cent to 79 per cent."

The situation Stock Sr. describes was articulated by Canadian Alliance candidate Betty Granger in a speech to University of Winnipeg political science students on Nov. 16.

"I call it the Asian Invasion," Granger said. "The Asian students that have come over to Canada have pressured the university system. Our own Canadian students actually could not even get into some of our university programs in Vancouver and Victoria."

While many UVic students may take issue with this statement, the Alliance leader is forgiving.

"These things happen," Day told reporters a few days later. Granger resigned from the Alliance on Nov. 19 over fear her comments may cost the party seats in Vancouver, but as *the Martlet* went to press she was considering reversing her decision.

Canadian Alliance policy states, "we will immediately deport bogus refugees and other illegal entrants." The party's constitution supports "the legitimate use of the Section 33 Notwithstanding power" within Canada's Constitution to suspend the *Charter* rights, a measure the Reform party advocated when 600 Chinese immigrants arrived on the B.C. coast in the summer of 1999.

Paul Fromm, a former Ontario school teacher who lost his job after delivering a speech at a neo-Nazi demonstration, now serves as director of the Canada First Immigration Reform Committee, an organization advocating European-only immigration.

"The Canadian Alliance's stand on immigration is good," Fromm said after attending the party's founding convention last January.

Indeed, the links between the far right and the Reform and Alliance parties are extensive.

Former Nanaimo Reform MP Bob Ringma once said it was okay to send a homosexual or black employee "to the back of the shop" if their presence was hurting business.

When UVic students protested outside Ringma's Nanaimo office on Feb. 14, 1996, a young man sporting a Swastika on his jacket came out to show his support for the Reform politician.

But all this was supposed to end with the termination of Reform last January. Alliance MP Jack Ramsey was kicked out of the party after he was convicted of sexually assaulting a 14-year-old First Nations girl while he was the RCMP chief in her Saskatchewan town in the 1960s.

Curiously enough, Ramsey served as leader of Christie's fledgling Western Canada Concept party before he was elected to Parliament under the Reform party banner.

What is Keegstra up to these days? After his teaching certificate was revoked, he opened a mechanic shop in Bentley, Alberta, a small town outside Red Deer.

"I worked on Stock's cars all the time," Keegstra told a reporter last summer. "I'd vote for Stockwell."

So it comes full circle as Canadians go to the polls.

In a strongly worded letter to the *National Post* last May, Stockwell Day denied any links between himself and Doug Christie.

"I oppose racist and antisemitic views, and those who propagate and defend them, with every ounce of my being," the would-be Prime Minister wrote.

But is that enough to vindicate Day and his party?

Stockwell Day will be in Victoria Nov. 25 at 7 p.m. in the Victoria Conference Centre.

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Kristallnacht remembered

by Debbie Willis

Sixty one years after Nazi troops stormed Jewish businesses in Germany, members of the Victoria Holocaust Remembrance and Education Society took an evening to look back and heal Nov. 9.

Kristallnacht, or the Night of the Broken Glass, was the first massive, coordinated attack on the Jewish community throughout the German Reich. It is marked as the beginning of the Holocaust, which killed millions by the end of WW2 .

Parishioners of the Emanuel synagogue held a service Nov. 9 and a commemoration of music and spoken word two days later on the Sabbath.

According to the president of the society, Steve Berer, the essential part of the commemorative events is that they are open to people of all faiths.

"It shows an expansion of genuine interfaith dialogue," said Berer. "The lessons of the Holocaust are universal."

The ninth annual Kristallnacht service in the historic synagogue consisted of candle lighting by survivors, prayers, poems and songs performed by the Jewish Community Choir. Approximately 300 people attended, almost half of whom were not Jewish. The evening drew from diverse perspectives with a brief history by Angela Anderson, who works for the society, and a word from MP David Anderson. He stressed the importance of learning from the Holocaust to keep it from happening again.

Paul Meyer, a witness to Kristallnacht, recalled the confusion he and others felt on the Night of the Broken Glass. He spoke about getting arrested and not knowing why, spending the night in jail and realizing that he would be sent to a concentration camp. He showed how his personal experience contradicted the official German position denying that Kristallnacht was a planned attack.

The Saturday event was the first citywide commemoration that included members of different churches in Victoria. It included music, psalms, reflections, interpretive dance and readings of newspaper clippings about Kristallnacht.

"We focused not just on remembering the Holocaust but on encouraging respect regardless of religious background," said Angela Anderson. "We have to learn about each other, accept each others' beliefs and value that."

photo provided

Nov. 9-10, 1938: The Night of Broken Glass

On Thursday, the small choir sang "Even When G-d is Silent" (this is the actual spelling of the song as Jews do not write out the entire word), lyrics discovered on a basement wall in Germany. The congregation said the Kaddish of the Camps, a mourner's prayer written specifically for those who died in concentration camps, and soloists performed "When I am silent." With such a service, it is easy to see why Berer says that it can be emotionally draining for anyone traveling down the road of Holocaust education.

Even so, he stressed that renewal and tolerance must be encouraged when looking back at such tragic events.

"I hope that people take away a commitment to doing one thing in this world that is good, to actively do something," said Berer. "We have to work much harder to make relations with our neighbours."

Anderson agreed with celebrating hope while revisiting the Holocaust in this manner.

"It's really important that people don't leave feeling hopeless, that they come away feeling that they could build a stronger community."

on the spot

by Richard Warrington

What issues will you take into the voting booth?

Mark Leduc
Education and health care are my major concerns.

Allen Shoolingin
Linguistics
Health care. post-secondary education, and equality for gays and lesbians.

Kiki Connely
1st year Social Sciences
Gay rights, anti-abortion and education.

Susan Funk
1st year Fine Arts
Class divisions, tax equality, health care.

Pot activist arrested

by Miguel R. MacDonald

Medical marijuana advocate Ted Smith learned just how dangerous passing a joint at UVic can be Nov. 8 when he was arrested for trafficking pot during the weekly "4:20" session of the Hempology 101 Society. Supporters gather at the fountain in front of the MacPherson library every Wednesday to smoke marijuana in order to raise awareness around the struggle to legalize pot.

Campus Security had contacted police to deal with the gatherings that have taken place all semester. Smith, co-founder of the Vancouver Island Cannabis Buyers' Club (VICBC), was arrested in a university parking lot after the Nov. 8 session was over.

"What I was doing there was challenging this ridiculous law," Smith said. He had lit seven joints and passed them around a crowd of students and supporters. An undercover officer pocketed one joint as evidence. Although other students smoked the pot Smith brought, he was the only one charged.

"The law is not being enforced equally," Smith said, pointing out that under current legislation simply passing a joint to another person can land each participant in jail for five years less a day. But because only Smith was arrested, he believes his reputation as an advocate for legalizing marijuana has the University trying to distance itself from him.

"The administration at UVic just wanted Saanich PD to throw the book at me," Smith said. He is now banned from campus and is under strict court orders to have zero levels of THC in his blood. He is also forbidden from taking part in the 4:20 meetings. Smith said he has complied with the court restrictions and no longer heads the club or the 4:20 meetings. Colleagues have taken over administration of these services and events. But is it worth the sacrifice? Smith says yes.

"The people that I'm helping are literally dying for this herb," he said, The group currently supplies 250 people who live with incurable diseases and use the marijuana as a pain killer.

A week after the UVic incident, Smith was arrested on Nov. 15 in front of the Greater Victoria Public Library's downtown branch for carrying 420 pot cookies to distribute at the weekly meeting. In a newspaper article that day, Smith had announced his intention to distribute the cookies. A bike patrol was waiting to arrest him when he arrived at the library.

Smith will appear in Victoria Provincial Court room 101 at 2 p.m. on Nov. 27.

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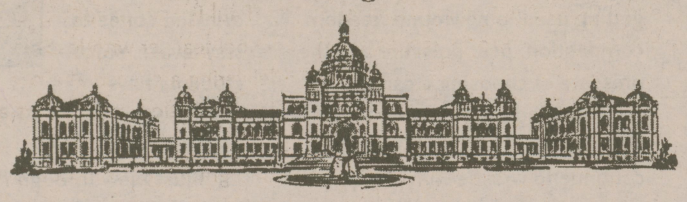

PURPOSE
To provide recent university graduates of a B.C. degree granting institution the opportunity to gain knowledge and appreciation of policy-making within the province's parliamentary system

WHO IS ELIGIBLE
Those who have received a Bachelor's Degree from a B.C. university or university college within two years of January 2002

LOCATION
Parliament Buildings, Victoria, British Columbia

TERM
January 1 to June 30, 2002

STIPEND
$15,175 for 6 months (subject to review)

APPLICATION DEADLINE
4 p.m., Wednesday, January 31, 2001

HOW TO APPLY
Program Applications are available from the Political Science Departments at all universities in British Columbia, or receive an application by contacting the Office of the Speaker, Parliament Buildings, Victoria, B.C., V8V 1X4
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E-mail: BCLIP@leg.bc.ca
Website: www.legis.gov.bc.ca

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All funds collected go to the UVSS emergency food program.

Riding Profiles

Victoria

pop. 103,774
voters. 79,472

David Anderson, *Liberal* * 381-0021 / www.andersonforvictoria.com
Chuck Beyer, *Marijuana Party* * 381-1210 / www.chuckbeyer.com
Lorenzo Bouchard, *Independent* *
Brian Burchill, *Progressive Conservative* * 592-7138 / www.pcparty.ca
Cal Danyluk, *Natural Law* * 384-8452 / www.natural-law.ca
Bruce Hallsor, *Canadian Alliance* * 383-2919 / www.hallsor.com
Mary Moreau, *Independent* *
Scott Rushton, *Communist* * 254-9836 / www.communist-party.ca
Joan Russow, *Green Party* * 383-7455 / voterussow.org
David Turner, *NDP* * 477-1778 / www.davidturner4mp.com

Chief Returning Officer:
Janet Baird, #104-1990 Fort St. * 363-3090
Office hours: Mon-Fri 9-9 * Sat 9-6 * Sun noon-4 pm

Esquimalt-Juan de Fuca

pop. 107,111
voters. 72,791

Casey Brennan, *Green Party* * 385-9942 / www.green.ca
Carol E. Harris, *NDP* * 381-6060 / www.carolharris4mp.com
Keith Martin, *Canadian Alliance* * 478-0400 / www.keithmartin.org
Paul E. Tessier, *Natural Law* * 384-8452 / www.natural-law.ca
Alan Thompson, *Liberal* * 474-4711 / www.liberal.ca
John Vukovic, *Progressive Conservative* * 727-9621 / jvukovic.pcparty.ca

Chief Returning Officer:
John Mackenzie, Staff House Five Dockyard Rec. Association,
763 Admirals Road * 363-0080
Office hours: Mon-Fri 9-9 * Sat 9-6 * Sun noon-4 pm

Saanich-Gulf Islands

pop. 107,104
voters. 77,381

Wally Du Temple, *Green Party* * 656-1784 / www.green.ca
Karen Knott, *Liberal* * 656-5016 / www.liberal.ca
Kathleen Lapeyrouse, *Natural Law* * 384-8452 / www.natural-law.ca
Gary Lunn, *Canadian Alliance* * 383-5866 / www.relectgarylunn.com
Dan Moreau, *Independent*
Pat O'Neill, *NDP* * 537-5347 / www.bc.ndp.ca/federal/candidates/oneill.html
Don Page, *Progressive Conservative* * 479-9861 / dpage.pcparty.ca
Charley Stimac, *Communist* * 254-9836 / www.communist-party.ca

Chief Returning Officer:
Sandra Neve, 2475 Mt. Newton Crossroad * 544-4600
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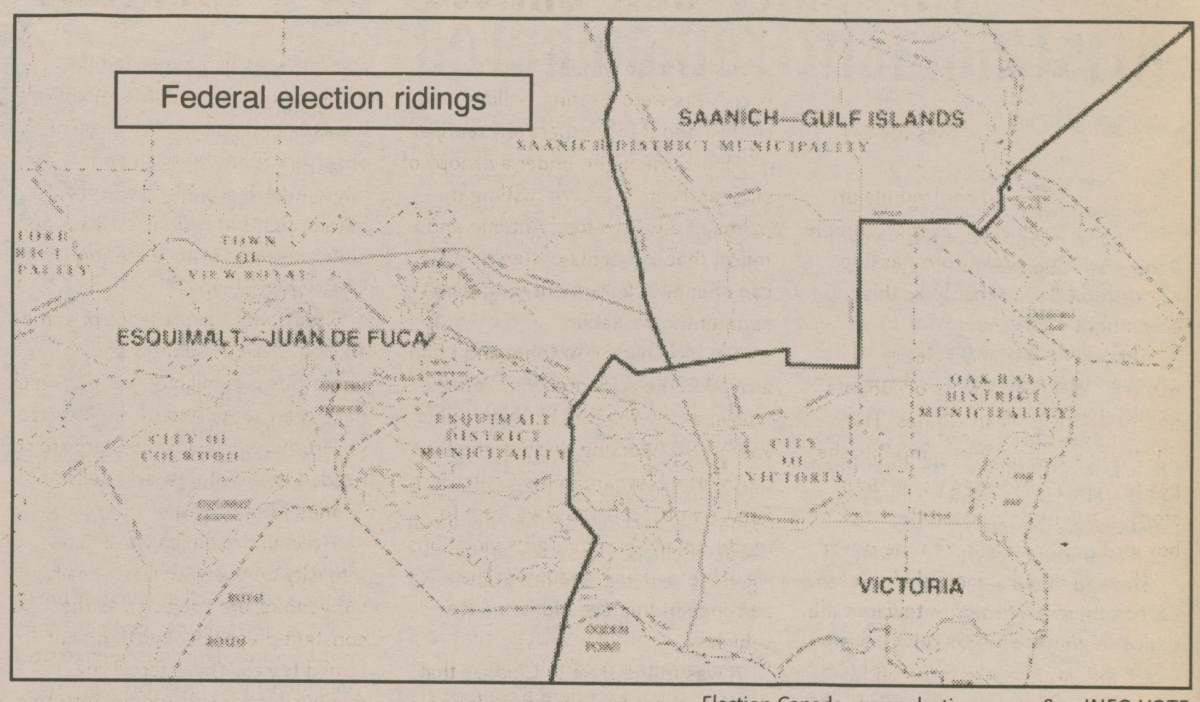

Election Canada - www.elections.ca - 1-800-INFO VOTE

How to vote on Nov. 27 without a voter's card:

Election day is **Monday, November 27, 2000**. You can register to vote **at this time** if you haven't already. You will have to provide a **valid proof of identification**, which can be *either*:
- a document with your **name, current address and signature**, such as a **driver's licence**, *or*
- **two (2) documents**, one with your **name and signature** and the other with your **name and address**

1. Call the **Chief Returning Officer** in your riding to find the **polling station** nearest you.
2. **VOTE** between 8 am and 8 pm - Don't forget your valid **I.D.**!
3. All Canadian citizens who are 18 years or older have the right to vote. **Exercise your right!**

Safe studying during crunch time

by Melissa Jones

With exams only weeks away, that familiar feeling of sweaty palms, anxiety, worry, headaches and restlessness sets in. Sound familiar? Yes, it's stress, something all too familiar to UVic students.

"Anxiety builds up over time," said Dr. Sylvain Boies, the Co-ordinator of Clinical Case Management and Outreach for UVic Counseling Services. He explained that stress can be caused by a number of factors such as: separation from the family, getting used to newfound freedom, competition, peer pressure and the pressure of choosing a career.

"Young adults are trying to define who they are," he said. Students continue to wrestle with lifestyle changes associated with their university life while still trying to find themselves and decipher what it is they want from university.

Head Nurse Donna Denman says that stress can be beneficial to some people, as long as there's an end in sight. It's the prolonged stress that can be problem-causing.

Balancing stress with relaxation is a good way to maintain control. Exercising, proper nutrition and lots of breathing exercises can help people to regain control over their lives. Denman said that some strategies for reducing stress can actually soothe a person.

"Checking off a list feels so good," said Nurse Denman. She discourages students from drinking pots of coffee to help them through study sessions. "You won't retain anything you learn," she said.

Although the common response to the so-much-to-do, so-little-time epidemic is to stay up all night working while drinking coffee to stay awake, some students have found better methods.

"I just plow through it," said Michelle Kinney, a third-year Women's Studies, Professional Writing and Sociology student, who is also a single mother. She said she finds it easiest just to get started early as opposed to leaving everything to the last minute.

Third-year Computer Science student Ryan Shaw's equation for stress-free success is to "play video games or go for long walks when he starts to feel the burn of exams.

"I don't get very stressed out over exams," said Jessie Dorner, a second-year History student. "I just complain a lot about how much I hate them."

Dr. Boies provides a two-day workshop in stress management to help students keep from feeling stressed out. Starting this Friday, counseling services will also offer four courses in exam preparation and exam writing. Call 721-8341 for more information or sign up at the centre located in the Campus Services Building, on the Ring Road side of the Bookstore, across from University Centre.

These workshops address studying and learning issues related to preparing for and writing examinations. It also identifies the seven major reasons for poor performance and discusses finding strategies for making the best use of study time. The workshop promises practical solutions and tips for studying and writing exams.

photo by Richard Warrington

Anybody want some cram apples? It's study time.

Olympic Sized Billiards!

The GSS has received the generous donation of a very large mint-condition regulation snooker/billiards table.
• It's HUGE! *Actual size: 12 ft.x 6 ft.(3.75m x 1.87m)*
• Billiard/snooker balls at the bar for sign-out.
• Games just $1.00 with unlimited playtime!

Vincent Van Gogh, "The Night Cafe", 1888

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Where tranquility can shatter at a moment's notice: Notes from Chiapas

by Tim Boultbee

A chorus of shouts reaches my ears. I grab my camera and run. At the entrance to the rural community of Patría Nueva, Chiapas, Mexico, people block a police vehicle from passing along the dirt road that links this community to others.

Although the truck is clearly marked "POLICIA," all its occupants are dressed in civilian clothes. The driver grinds into reverse and hits the gas to back the truck away. When it stops, a few individuals in the truck's box jump out and talk with the driver.

Three of its occupants then walk cautiously, almost meekly, towards the crowd. With several feet still between them, one of the three takes off his hat and begins to address the crowd in a language that is not Spanish. Gathering from his gestures, however, he is obviously asking permission for the vehicle to pass.

The people, especially the women, are adamantly opposed and shout the man down until he gives up and returns to the truck with his companions. The driver spins the vehicle onto the nearby highway and takes off blaring his siren to the jeers of those gathered.

Antonio and I look at one another. He opens our book of records and we begin documenting what we have just witnessed. In response to our questions, people shrug their shoulders as to why the truck's occupants were wearing civilian clothes and if they expect any reprisal.

That same night, under a canopy of stars and with a breeze rustling the palms of a nearby tree, Antonio and I reflect that moments of tranquillity can shatter in a moment in Mexico's southernmost state.

Ten days earlier, Antonio and I had arrived in the community of Patría Nueva as international human rights volunteers. Working through the Fray Bartolome Human Rights Center in San Cristobal, Chiapas, we were to report on any human rights violations we witnessed and document the passings of military and/or police vehicles.

It was in the state of Chiapas that the Zapatistas launched their Jan.1, 1994 uprising and briefly occupied several towns, including San Cristobal.

After large-scale military offenses failed to crush the Zapatistas, the Government of Mexico entered into a dialogue which resulted in the San Andreas Accords of 1996. Under President Ernesto Zedillo, however, the Mexican government not only reneged on its promise to sign the accords, it tried to unilaterally implement a document of its own.

Realizing that negotiations with the government were futile, the Zapatistas walked away from further talks.

In 1995, after Zedillo had ordered a military offensive against Zapatistas, communities had requested the presence of human rights volunteers. It was hoped that the presence of observers (both Mexican and international) would ease further human rights violations by Mexican authorities and bring attention to the situation in Chiapas.

Today, with the presence of some 70,000 Mexican soldiers and numerous paramilitary groups (which have been supported by the Mexican government/army), volunteers are still needed to monitor what is called the "Zone of Conflict."

Here, under the name of "Low Intensity Conflict," civilians, mainly indigenous, are subjected to the constant presence of government armed forces. These forces are responsible for kidnapping, torturing, beating and murdering civilians who speak out about their human rights – rights which have been enshrined by the United Nations, and recognized through international treaties signed by the Government of Mexico.

In 1994, Patría Nueva was a privately owned dairy farm. Just after the Zapatista uprising on January 1 of that year, which coincided with the implementation of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), the landowner abandoned his farm and the army burned the workers' houses.

Some months later, families began to settle on the land, but fled into the surrounding mountains when the army arrived. Once again, homes were burned to the ground.

People returned with caution. Today, the community of Patría Nueva has several stores and a medical room where doctors from Doctors Without Borders treat people once a week. The community also has a 24-hour guard at the main entrance.

Later returning to San Cristobal and meeting other observers, I learned that a guard is common in many communities where human rights abuses have occurred.

I was also reminded that in many instances, the army prohibits villagers from leaving their communities. This means people cannot farm the fields where they grow such staples as corn and beans. Without access to their crops, these communities rely on international relief organizations like the Red Cross for food every month.

The people in Patría Nueva, however, have access to land and can grow crops. Still, in an effort to starve people into submission, the Mexican army has sent in rats by the sackful to eat what the people grow.

Despite such attempts, food is grown, and scattered throughout their fields are banana trees and bushes of coffee grown as cash crops.

Even so, Mexican buyers (called coyotes) pay less than $.96 US for a kilo of dried coffee beans, and trying to negotiate a higher price is useless because the coyotes are usually armed and know that they control the market.

For a good portion of our time in Patría Nueva, Antonio and I stationed ourselves along with the men, women and children by the community's main entrance and documented the comings and goings of various police and army vehicles along the main highway.

One afternoon, a man tells us that the valley and surrounding hills had once belonged to his people's forefathers, but had been taken away as landowners expanded their farms.

"Our grandfathers had no rights," he explains, "but now things have changed; we know our rights and will defend those rights; we have no choice."

He becomes silent for a moment then holds out his hand to shake ours and thanks Antonio and I for being present. Then, with a pleasant goodbye, he turns and walks home.

Through the Building Bridges Human Rights Program in Victoria, and the Fray Bartolome Human Rights Center in San Cristobal, Chiapas, I was a human rights observer in Mexico for almost two weeks this summer. For more information about Building Bridges, contact the writer at 384-7843.

Largest protected land area in northern B.C. the first of its kind in North America

by Sarah Glen

VICTORIA (CUP) – Last week's provincial government decision to protect a swath of land in Northeastern B.C. is being hailed by environmentalists as a break-through in North American conservation biology practices.

"This is a decision big enough to count," said George Smith, a national conservation director with Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society.

The newly protected two million hectares near Mackenzie, B.C. will be incorporated in the adjacent Muskwa Kechika management area to complete a 6.4 million hectare conservation system – one of the first of its kind in North America.

The Muskwa Kechika management area, the province's largest roadless wilderness, was protected in 1997.

"This massive and majestic land mass will allow free-ranging animals like caribou and wolves the space to migrate without being threatened by aggressive logging and mining practices," said Smith.

Kevin Wu, a forest campaigner with Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society explains that conservation biology helps devise a plan that works with nature, communities and industries to reach a consensus.

"You can't just make parks. They become islands of extinction surrounded by development," he said. "Conservation biology tries to change all that."

Combined with the already protected Muskwa Kechika management plan, the Mackenzie land, resource and management plan (LRMP) incorporates a chunk of B.C. wilderness bigger than Switzerland and nearly the size of New Brunswick.

Government approval of the Mackenzie LRMP on Nov. 15 is just the next step in an eight-year process that saw a wide range of groups, from environmentalists to logging companies, hash out the proposal.

Those at the table did reach a consensus, but without the approval of the B.C. Mining Assoc., which left the negotiations in the mid-1990s.

"This LRMP makes it extremely difficult for us to access the large parts of this area. Over half of the area is off-limits to development," said Gary Livingstone, president of the B.C. Mining Association.

Livingstone compares his industry to a jewelry store that is in direct competition with other jewelry stores – if the price gets too high, he'll shop elsewhere.

"This plan doesn't outline the socio-economic impacts of isolating such a large section of resources. The province has failed to look at this closely," he said.

But Paul Stevenson, CEO of B.C.-based Pacific Booker Minerals and one of the only mining companies to support the LRMP, says Livingstone's concerns are unfounded.

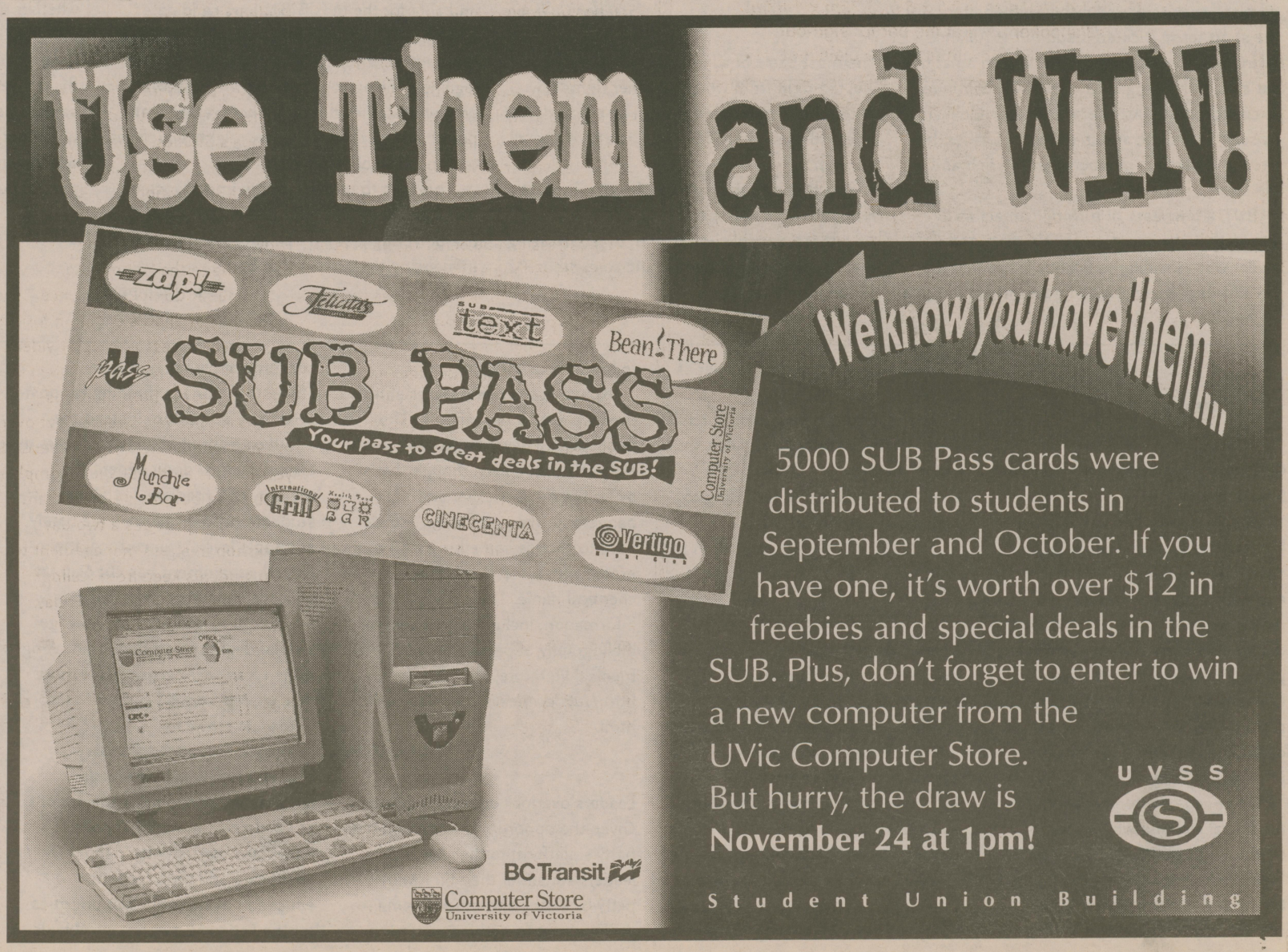
"The mining association is reacting to a hypothetical situation of what will happen when the plan is implemented. They keep saying that B.C. is becoming hostile to the mining industry but what they don't see is that the face of mining is changing," said Stevenson.

He says that the only way for B.C.'s mining industry to keep doing business in the province is to enter in negotiations with First Nations, local communities and environmentalists.

"The Mackenzie LRMP supports mining in site-specific areas, which is something I support. The mining association has got to stop crying and come on board," he said.

Spurred on by the government's recent approval of the Mackenzie LRMP, the Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society will begin campaigning for a similar plan for B.C.'s Okanagan region.

Smith calls this region a "forgotten wilderness" and is hoping to start the negotiation process all over again – this time reaching an agreement that supports everyone's stake in the area.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EDITORIAL:

Do you vote strategy or conscience?

Statue Law Night In Canada? Why is the election pitched at us as if it's a team sport? Wayne Gretzky kisses the Stanley Cup; Jean Chretien kisses the Income Tax Act?

By my reckoning, this is not about winning or losing. The newspapers, television stations, websites, even political activists seem to think it is. Everyone seems to think it is. There are some similarities – team uniforms, pennants, "team captains," and, yes, even a winner and a loser!

This is really about statue law and distribution of the tax money.

Wanting what's best for Canadians is not what it's about. No one, not even Angus Reid, has any way of knowing. High school statistics more than assure us.

Wanting what's best for your vision of Canada, and describing both your vision and your idea in detail – YES! Trudeau knew that. And who's the only bloke actually delivering such these days? I wish, I WISH that parties other than the Alliance would actually make public a detailed plan of what they intend. A flowery pamphlet about "healthcare" and "jobs" tells me nothing. Rhetoric is like the devil: it'll back anyone as long as they sign off their soul. Take a course on ethics!

Unfortunately, I'm left not liking the Alliance's more lucid ideas, and left having to make a strategic vote. Curse you, Chretien, McDonough, Clark!

Julius Davies

I am a strong advocate for voting by conscience. I understand that if many of the Liberal votes are "thrown away" to the NDP or Green Party, that a party with views completely opposite to mine could take power (i.e. the Alliance).

However, one of the giant flaws in our and the US's so-called democracy is the system's incredible capability of maintaining the status quo. When you vote "strategically" you are maintaining the status quo; you are not voting for who you want to represent your views to lead your country; you are not actually attempting to make a change for the better; you are simply preventing a change from what you think is worse.

While it may be easier to say than do, perhaps taking that "gamble" to vote for the party you truly believe in is, in the long run, going to change the country for the better. In the short term, it could result in the Alliance taking power, who may then establish a flat tax, cut all cultural programs (i.e. CBC), continue to cut corporate taxes, promote individualism as seen in the US, and in essence, further the already enormous gap between the rich and the poor.

BUT, a few years of turmoil can act as a lesson that our country needs a party and a leader who is willing to acknowledge that the US's form of business and government is not a healthy and viable way to build a country. We need to think long term and start using the power of the vote.

We need to fuck the status quo, fuck strategic voting, and start voting for who we want.

David Crothall

The Reform/Alliance would be so awful. If David Anderson lost his job, I don't think the replacement Environment Minister – Liberal or Alliance – would be an improvement. The NDP and Greens are very low in the polls here.

So my vote will be tactical: I'll aim to keep the Reform/Alliance out by voting Liberal.

P.S. Why is the Alliance called the Alliance? Who are its allies? (I'm scared to find out the answer to this question, and I'm suspicious about why no one has told me.)

Tom Howell

You have to vote according to your beliefs, and not make concessions of the "oh, well, they don't really have a chance to win" sort. If it wasn't for all the people who thought that way there would be a lot more parties with some prominence and a chance to put real ideas into debate.

If voting for the NDP or the Greens or the Western Canada Concept is a waste of your vote then so be it. So is casting a ballot for someone you don't really believe has a chance to change things.

The notion of "wasted votes" is a fallacy anyway, because one vote doesn't matter. Even in the closest of races (US presidential election 2000) it takes somewhere in the neighbourhood of five hundred votes, minimum, to make a difference, and then only if you live in Florida. You may as well give up the idea of tipping the balance with your one ballot because, the fact is, the same person is going to be elected whether you get off the couch or not.

If you're voting, it's a matter of being part of something bigger than yourself. It's a ritual, really, a part of our secular mythology. When you mark your X in that voting booth, you're performing an act of magic, and contributing to a collective consciousness. You're symbolically exerting your will upon the world, in an attempt to advance certain ideas and ideals. So they'd better be ones you believe in.

Stephen Cudmore

The most basic of all our rights is the right to life, the right from which all other rights flow. Without life, no other right can be enjoyed. Any threat to the right to life, then, is a threat to all our rights.

Any threat to the right to life not only puts human beings at risk of being killed, but also "is a threat capable, in the end, of jeopardizing the very meaning of democratic co-existence" (Pope John Paul II).

While I find the Alliance party does not in every way suit my personal preference for a government which would better address the issues of poverty within Canada, I can not, in all conscience, vote for any candidate who openly supports the continual disregard of the most basic human right, the right to life.

Therefore, I will vote for the Alliance party this coming federal election, as Mr. Day is the only man with the courage to speak against the continued execution of innocent children in the wombs of their mothers.

To paraphrase Mother Teresa, I am pro-choice right up to the moment of conception.

Ken Gallagher

At 27, I am still not interested in voting. I know my silence allows others to speak for me, but they will speak in an arena influential to my domain, not my interests. I have often questioned my disinterest in politics, but I see it as an outdated system feeding off its own tail (I have had two co-op positions with provincial ministries, living off one's own fat is fattening, figuratively and literally.)

By not voting, I have not thrown in the towel, but rather, looked to aid, delegate, and communicate in a manner more apt to this day and age. (Smiling is a much more efficient vehicle of change.)

Justin White

Strategize this:
Perhaps the only way to take electoral politics seriously is to accept the absurd nature of it, and vote for the most ridiculous candidate.

Natural Law is a good place to start. Forget replacing all those Sea-King helicopters – legions of flying yoga masters are far more economical, they run on granola rather than petrol, and I expect they'll be mighty beneficial to Canada's collective karma.

This isn't to understate the importance of being an active and informed citizen. But maybe voting just isn't an effective means of influencing the powers that be.

John Thompson

Despite the welling of cynicism that boils over in my gut when I begin to think about voting and about the not-so-noble state of democracy these days, I still think that I ought to vote, and that everyone else ought to as well. Even though I am neither a socialist nor an anarchist, I admit (with great deal of others, I suspect) that the choices don't look too good: the Liberals seem a little fishy, and the Alliance is clearly a choice made by those who are against a variety of choices that are both important and necessary for even the 'hope' of a decent world. I am not too sure of the other parties, but I know that I am against the Alliance; so I am forced to vote. In the end I will probably go for the Liberals by default, and because the 'ideal' of the party is one which I support.

Darren Bifford

I'm not voting "strategically." I don't want to sound overly idealistic, but I feel that a person should vote for the party/person who represents their views best. In my case it would be Greens or NDP. Now, I know neither of those parties have a hope in hell of getting any significant representation in Parliament. But my vote in their favour sends a message that a (hopefully growing) segment of the population is not satisfied with the status quo.

The last thing I want to do is give a party I don't honestly support my vote.

Todd Orchard

I don't vote. The reason being that, all parties, whether right- or left-wing, do exactly the same thing as the previous party in power: They never follow their election promises. So what's the point? If there was a spot on the ballot that said 'none of the above', then I'd vote and hope that, like Russia, 'none of the above' would win. Maybe then the politicians would get the point.

Margaret Speirs

LETTERS:

CBC sees a two-party race – not so
Shame on the CBC for limiting their TV debate to only two candidates! Victoria has a number of excellent candidates running in this election and with 41 per cent undecided, the race is still wide open. The Federal debate had representatives from five parties including the Progressive Conservatives and the NDP. The poll results after showed the "long shot" candidates to have had a major impact on the race.

One need only remember the provincial election where the CBC tried to shut out Gordon Wilson – to their credit, they eventually changed their mind. Wilson was given an opportunity to speak and the face of B.C. politics was changed forever as a result.

The real irony here is that Burchill – one of the Victoria candidates shut out of the debate – is one of the CBC's strongest allies according to his election platform.

Talk about shooting yourself in the foot, no wonder they are going broke.

Paul Scrimger

Chemicals get a bad rap
Police officers are human, and it is human nature to find moral justifications for one's work. If your job is to enforce the law, and the law says that sodium gamma-hydroxybutyrate is illegal, then you will naturally tend to believe that it is immoral as well, and write your press releases accordingly. Just like a few years ago, when everyone knew that nasty evil men were using marijuana to lower 'nice' girls' inhibitions.

Now that the hemp war is almost over, we need a new enemy. The public would never buy a story on the evils of alcohol, even though that's by far the most popular and dangerous "date rape drug," so we have to choose something a bit more exotic, with a scary-sounding chemical name. There's a lot of GHB information, including an extensive bibliography of peer-reviewed medical literature, at http://uts.cc.utexas.edu/~laborit/faq.html.

Matthew Skala

Leaders overlook education question
Given the opportunity to explain their party's platform to the country, leaders squander their time with petty bickering and mud slinging – we hear next to nothing about the concerns of over one million students in Canada: funding for post-secondary education. Instead they pontificate about billions of dollars in tax cuts, which don't benefit the majority of Canadians, let alone students (whose incomes are barely at taxable levels). Since 1993, the federal government has cut $5.2 billion dollars from post-secondary education. In addition, the average level of debt for a student graduating from a four-year program has more than tripled from $8,000 to $25,000 in the last ten years.

By ignoring post-secondary education, political leaders are ignoring the concerns of the majority of Canadians. In national polls, Canadians consistently identify healthcare and post-secondary education as their top two priorities for the Federal Government. Why is the issue of accessible education on the backburner during this election? Why doesn't the government pay any attention to the issues that are important to us? And they accuse us of apathy!

As students, we must get informed, demand that our issues be addressed and most importantly, vote. We shouldn't vote against the party that we're afraid of, or vote for the party that is probably going to win anyway, we should vote for whichever party most closely represents us.

Vote education, and maybe, just maybe, they'll start to do something about issues that affect us.

Summer McFadyen
Chairperson, UVic Students' Society

letters continued on page 20...

[2000/2001]
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MONOLOGUE:
I got the Doris Day, notwithstanding, referenda blues

by Mark Redgwell

This was supposed to be a clever tongue-in-cheek piece about *This Hour Has 22 Minutes'* spoof petition to change Stockwell Day's first name to Doris. But the pleasure I might derive from making wry political predictions is eclipsed, however, by the ominous implications of Day's proposed direct democracy reforms. Namely, having binding referenda and using the "notwithstanding clause" to suspend Charter rights when a court ruling conflicts with the intent of Parliament and the will of the public.

Although the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedom* wasn't created until 1982, its roots can be traced back to WWII. Although the constitution divided power between the federal and provincial governments, virtually anything was allowed.

It provides limits to what governments can do and allows the court to strike down laws when governments violate those limits. But the *Charter* is not without its loopholes and it is Alliance policy to use those loopholes whenever the court strikes down unjust laws that conflict with its agenda. The "notwithstanding clause" (s. 33 of the *Charter*) can be invoked by federal and provincial governments to override the *Charter* and abolish some of its most important rights protections.

These protections include the freedoms of expression, religion, and peaceful assembly; the right to equal treatment under the law without discrimination; and a number of important legal safeguards such as freedom from unreasonable search and seizure, arbitrary detainment or imprisonment, or cruel and unusual treatment or punishment. *R. vs. Sharpe*, a case in which the law prohibiting the possession of child pornography was struck down for violating the *Charter*, illustrates the folly of the Alliance's direct democracy policies. Day brought up the Sharpe case in the leadership debate, suggesting the courts are putting the rights of child pornographers and pedophiles over the rights of children.

What he fails to mention, however, is why the law violates the *Charter*. The court has no problem upholding laws designed to protect children from abuse, nor does it fail to consider the rights of children when it chooses to strike down law.

The court's problem with this particular law is that it covers materials that don't harm, abuse, or involve children in anyway. Children are not abused when an unusually youthful-looking couple choose to record their saucy acts. Children are not harmed when an adult survivour of childhood sexual abuse paints images of his childhood molestation in art therapy.

Yet all of these examples fall under possession of child pornography and are illegal to possess. The courts had no choice but to declare this overly broad law unconstitutional. Sharpe is now before the Supreme Court of Canada. If the Supreme Court upholds the lower court rulings, the Alliance might recognize that the law goes beyond legislative intent (to protect children) and support rewriting the law.

I, for one, am not going to hold my breath. If they stick to their direct democracy platform, the Alliance will hold a binding referendum. They will undoubtedly disguise the complicated rights issues with sensationalistic fabrications about unelected judges choosing a pervert's right to have sexual videos of kids over a child's right to not be abused, but that shouldn't be too hard. The public is easily herded and believes whatever it is told to believe.

The most likely reaction, however, would be to invoke s. 33 and allow this overly broad law to stand unchanged. If keeping a faulty possession of child porn law on the books was the worst example I could offer, then I doubt most people would care. But it is only the first step.

The Alliance would also use s. 33 to circumvent important legal protections to deal with biker gangs, illegal migrants, abortion, the death penalty, and, if Day's time with the Alberta Tories is any indication, the protected rights of homosexuals (*Vriend v. Alberta*). Under Day's Alliance, laws refusing welfare to people who refuse drug testing or drug treatment could escape *Charter* scrutiny by using s. 33. Like 6,000,000 other people, I howled with laughter when I first heard about *22 Minutes'* Doris Day petition. But if the Alliance has its way, few people will be laughing.

STUDENT VOICE:

by Troy Sebastian

Before the election was called I began to re-evaluate my commitment to voting. It has always been something that I have been very proud of, as my father wasn't able to vote federally until 1960, when he was 36 years old. I have always felt that exercising my right to vote was integral part of being a responsible citizen, both as a Canadian, and as a Ktunaxa.

However, the teachings of Dr. Taiaike Alfred have influenced me for some time. He believes that any aboriginal person in Canada who uses the franchise is merely reinforcing a racist, colonial government structure that is assimilationist in nature.

While this challenged many of my own beliefs, I began to listen to his argument, and to study the government of Canada. Judging from many recent federal government initiatives on the aboriginal right of self-determination, and self-government, such as the Gathering Strength Policy, or the Nisga'a Treaty, a pattern is clearly evident. Simply put, if Aboriginal Peoples want to settle land claims, develop self-government, or the like, they first must agree to extinguish any further claims of their rights in the future.

What this means to me is that we, the Ktunaxa, must surrender our rights as self-determining people, as people who have an identity beyond the scope of Canada, as people who have maintained our connection to our land and each other, in order to get results from the federal government. I do not think so.

So what effect will my vote have on this election? First of all, I do not believe that any of the parties have fundamentally different positions to the current focus of rights extinguishment. Rather, I would contend that they only have varying degrees of severity in their approach to Aboriginal peoples. Furthermore, I believe that they do not have an adequate response for direct assertions of aboriginal rights, other than the reactive use of force, and the assertion of illegality on part of the aboriginal.

For example, the Liberals have recently been involved in a nasty dispute in Burnt Church, NB. They have authorized the sinking of Miíkmaq fishing boats (while people were in them), and the arrest of Miíkmaq leaders, all in the name of conservation. The Progressive Conservatives, and the NDP, have also taken similar actions. Prime Minister Brian Mulroney took 45 days to recognize and respond to the 1990 Oka Crisis. By that time, hostilities were at an all time high throughout the nation.

Similarly, in 1995, the B.C. New Democratic Party authorized the RCMP crackdown at Gustafsen Lake. (It was the largest expenditure in RCMP history, with over 77,000 rounds of ammunition fired.) As for the Canadian Alliance Party, while they have not formed government, they support the abolishment of reservations, tax-free status, and communal land ownership, in the hope of establishing a vibrant, private land-owning aboriginal middle class.

The point that I am trying to make is that I believe that Aboriginal Peoples in Canada are systemically discriminated against by Canadian governments, regardless of what party is in power. Furthermore, I think that it is clear that, for all Canadians, electoral politics does not offer a real alternative to the status quo. I must agree with Dr. Alfred: electioneering, voting, lobbying, spinning, polling are all tenants of the Canadian political system, and are fundamentally antithetical to indigenous governance.

Having said all of this, I still haven't made up my mind if I am going to vote at all. I do not see how much different my life would be with an Alliance government. If anything, an Alliance government, hell-bent on the abolition of reservations, would politicize Aboriginal peoples to such a degree that Oka would look like a fairy tale.

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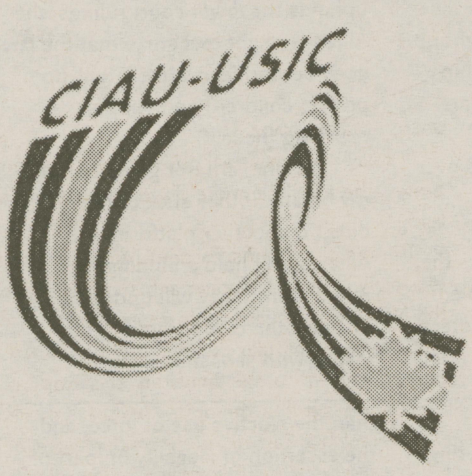
AFTER LIFE

Little Big League:

Are changes to CIAU scholarships the first step towards creating a mini-NCAA in Canada?



VS

by Miguel C. Strother

While at high school in Victoria, Nico Craveiro was just one example of the hundreds of Canadian kids who dream of going to the United States to play on an National Collegiate Athletics Association (NCAA) sports scholarship. His father talked about it with pride to friends and family, saying that the level of soccer was better than in the Canadian Intercollegiate Athletics Union (CIAU). So when he was offered a 25 per cent scholarship to go play for the Bulldogs of Fresno State University in California, Craveiro jumped at it.

But life in the NCAA was not what Craveiro dreamed it would be.

> Everything was about money, nothing was about education.
>
> *Nico Craveiro*

Craveiro's scholarship was offered sight unseen and he was convinced he could impress the coaches enough when he got down to California to get it bumped up in the second semester. After a few months he became a starter with the team, which was ranked among the best in the NCAA at the time, and the Fresno State coach said, in writing, that Craveiro's scholarship would be increased to a much more lucrative 75 per cent. Despite the promises, the money never came and Craveiro's "scholarship" ended up costing him about $10,000 US in tuition fees and living expenses.

"Those people down there didn't care about me at all. Everything was about money, nothing was about education," says Craveiro. "The teachers love sports people and don't care if you show up to class. So I never went to class, partied hard and still ended up on the dean's list. I would've never learned a thing if I'd stayed down there. I was a kid away from home for the first time, with little guidance, and I would have partied my life away. Then what?"

Ill-informed perceptions and trumped up dreams driven by the billion-dollar media machine of the United States' NCAA dwarf the credibility of home-grown athletic programs like the CIAU. Often these perceptions lead to moves that damage the athletic and academic careers of those stary-eyed Canadian athletes who hurl themselves into the big business of amateur sport in America.

The Canadian Intercollegiate Athletics Union (CIAU) loses roughly 1,700 talented Canadian athletes like Craveiro to the high-profile NCAA each year. But staying home to play varsity level university sports just got a little easier.

In 1986, the maximum amount of financial support a Canadian student-athlete could receive was $1,496. This fall, thanks to a vote at the 48-member CIAU's annual general meeting in June, schools can now pay their top athletes full tuition plus compulsory fees. That's as much as a $3,300 raise for athletes at some schools and places the CIAU into a position much more comparable to that of the NCAA.

"This is a great move for the CIAU," says former National Associate of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) standout at Simon Fraser University and men's national basketball team head coach for this year's Olympics, Jay Triano. "Players go to the NCAA because of the competition and because their school is paid for. If the CIAU makes it easier for them to go to school, more kids are going to stay and the competition and sports programs in Canada are just going to get better and better. I think it's a really big step."

But changes to CIAU scholarships haven't come without criticism. While the CIAU will now allow universities to offer full tuition athletic scholarships, it is up to individual schools to decide how many, if any, to hand out.

Some universities believe scholarships should be handed out based on need and academic standing, not sports. Others are wondering where they'll find the extra funding. They say the changes will create a two-tiered CIAU, where schools with greater financial resources will hold a monopoly on championship banners, much as in the NCAA.

"The change (in CIAU policy) is causing some real concern because most smaller institutions simply can't afford to spend any more on their sports teams," says Frank Butler, associate director of St. John's, NFLD Memorial University's school of physical education. "We're waiting to see if we can get some help from the president's office, but if our budget isn't tuned up we may have to start dropping certain sports."

"I think you're going to have schools who simply aren't able to compete in some sports," says Butler. "We've thought about changing student recreation fees, but we can't burden students with higher fees because they are already outrageous. Maybe we'll be able to find private funding, but that too is difficult because we'll likely have the student body crying foul because it's not fair to other students."

Peter Metuzals, the CIAU's director of marketing, defends upping scholarships, saying offering athletes more money gives the Canadian organization a chance to build a system more like the NCAA. "There's no question that the NCAA is an attractive model to follow," he says. "We have all the ingredients in Canada to develop a mini-NCAA. Where it goes from here, I don't know."

The NCAA provides the best college athletes with nearly the notoriety of pro-athletes and the benefit of full-ride scholarships worth hundreds-of-thousands-of-dollars over a four-year period. Teams are paid millions for television rights, draw fan support to fill huge stadiums week after week, and play in bowl games more religious than Christmas.

The result is that the NCAA controls one of the largest, most lucrative sport empires in the world. Conservative estimates say that nearly one billion dollars was legally wagered in Nevada on NCAA games in 1999. Estimates on illegal NCAA gambling across America range in the tens of billions. With that money has come corruption and major flaws in the American University system.

Despite the attempts the NCAA has made to stamp out corruption, student athletes in sports like football and basketball are still often highly courted by big schools, not only in the form of scholarships, but illegally with expensive cars, gifts, and cash.

> Players go to the NCAA because of the competition and because their school is paid for. If the CIAU makes it easier for them to go to school, more kids are going to stay and the competition and sports programs in Canada are just going to get better and better. I think it's a really big step.
>
> *Jay Triano*

Jesse Ammerman, a writer at the University of Iowa, mocks the blatant corruption saying, "This is something that occurs at nearly every major university in the country.

Nico Craveiro led UVic to a third place finish in CIAU soccer action this season.

photo by Miguel C. Strother

That is, universities with strong athletics programs. This was true at the University of Michigan, where I spent my first year of school dodging giant new SUVs, ones big enough to hold the athletes that drove them. When Robert Traylor, a star basketball player at Michigan, was questioned about the $40,000 Suburban that he drove, he explained that his aunt – a Detroit factory worker – had purchased it for him. Yes, it sounded just as plausible then."

And then there's the issue of an athlete's education while they play in the NCAA.

Even though rules require student athletes entering the NCAA to have a 2.0 grade-point average (GPA) in 13 approved academic "core" courses and an SAT of 1010 or a combined ACT of 86, it is widely believed that athletes aren't subject to the same academic criteria as normal students.

Education was a side note for many former NCAA athletes now playing in the National Football League (NFL), says Canadian Doug Brown, a veteran 6'8", 300 pound free agent defensive tackle and another former NAIA player from Simon Fraser University.

"Without question all the hype surrounding the NCAA hinders the athletes education level," says Brown. "But an athlete's education isn't a priority at NCAA colleges. Filling 100,000 seats, and getting graduates into the NFL generates much more revenue for the university. It is simply a matter of priorities."

In contrast, Canadian student athletes will still have to complete high school with at least an 80 per cent average or have successfully completed two full-time semesters of university study. A resolution at the June CIAU meeting calling to lower that average to 70 per cent was rejected.

"Canadian schools beat American schools academically in almost every instance," says the CIAU's Metuzals. "What it comes down to are the priorities of the athletes. If they want to go pro, then chances are they'll still go to the US. But with a strong academic history and the new scholarship regulations in place, hopefully we'll be more competitive and make them think twice."

However, that CIAU is nowhere near the NCAA in terms of its cultural and economic status, a fact bound to remain in tact despite changes to scholarship regulations.

"If you follow the food chain of American athletics, eventually you are going to tie it into the economy," says Brown. "The US has a much stronger economy with a much larger population that values athletics as a huge entertainment commodity. Canadian universities do not have the money or the programs to attract elite level talent. We simply cannot afford to run successful big-show athletic programs."

Although most people say going to the US is the best option for those who want to make it in the bigs, the fact is that the NCAA is the bigs and many student athletes aren't ready to shoulder the professional pressure. Given the time to develop and mature in a familiar environment, with Canadian coaches and administrators committed to supporting them, student athletes and the programs they play in will undoubtedly improve.

"Hey, I may not have played in the CIAU but I stayed in Canada and that's why I became such a successful scorer with the national program," says Triano. "Here there is a better chance that an athlete is going to play. If you are a player who goes to the States and doesn't see the floor and only ends up getting six or seven points a game then you're probably going to have a hard time when the time comes for you to step it up."

Only three of the 12 members of Canada's men's basketball team that went to the Sydney Olympics played university hoops in Canada, all the rest played in the States. However, Triano thinks added CIAU funding will change that in 2004.

"I'd say there is a real good chance that next time around there will be more players from the CIAU on the team."

Triano's predictions for the CIAU could be right, especially if more Canadian athletes like Craveiro decide the NCAA doesn't live up to expectations.

Craveiro eventually decided that the NCAA wasn't for him and moved to the University of Victoria in 1998, despite the fact that the pricey US classes couldn't be transferred to a Canadian university degree, and he had never even heard of UVic coach Bruce Wilson.

"Bruce Wilson? Who the hell is Bruce Wilson? I didn't know," says Nico. "But now I know, this guy is incredible. You should see guys working their asses off for him. I've got so much respect for him."

Turns out, in true Canadian modesty, Wilson was one of the best players in North American history, with 57 internationals, including a World Cup and an Olympic Games, to add to a long professional career.

"Now I'm back in Canada, I'm getting a great education and my coach has been like a second father to me," says Craveiro. "We've lost three of our 60 games in the two years I've been here, including those against top American teams. Our soccer wins."

Miguel Strother has been reporting on amateur and professional sport in Canada for the past seven years.

What it comes down to are the priorities of the athletes. If they want to go pro, then chances are they'll still go to the US. But with a strong academic history and the new scholarship regulations in place, hopefully we'll be more competitive and make them think twice.

Peter Metuzals

Changes to CIAU rules:

• The amount a student athlete goes up from $1,496 in any one academic year to 100 per cent of tuition plus all compulsory fees. In 1997-98, more than $2 million was awarded to 1,881 student athletes.

• Within five years all athletics awards dollars will be split evenly between men and women, proportional to the number of student athletes of each.

• Financial assistance of any kind awarded to a CIAU student athlete has to be reported at the end of every season.

• An entering student may receive an athletic award by satisfying one of two requirements: an 80-percent high school or CEGEP average or the successful completion of two university semesters.

Book review

Orphans looks brilliant, but pales in comparison to Ishiguro's *Remains*

When We Were Orphans
Kazuo Ishiguro
Knopf Canada

by Jessica Gin-Jade Chan

Ishiguro's drive through the English countryside in *Remains of the Day* picked up a Booker Prize in 1989. His creation of the forgetful but internationally renowned pianist Ryder in *The Unconsoled* was a bold step backwards to the tradition of featuring rich and famous heroes in novels. The success of his stories lies in their simplicity – these craftily structured forms surprise and shock with their haunting reflections of our own world. Ishiguro's mastery lies in his skill to mask the apparent.

The Japanese-born and British-bred Ishiguro has transferred his talent to his new novel, *When We Were Orphans*. At first glance, his new novel seems to be a conventional detective tale set in 1930s London. The narrator is Christopher Banks, a well-known private investigator who tells us about his desire to solve the mystery of his parents' disappearance. Here Ishiguro reuses much of his critically-acclaimed narrative technique.

Christopher tells his story with an understated blandness, which mirrors the self-disciplined tones of Steven the butler from *Remains*. Both characters are exemplary models of the 'proper Englishman' for whom nothing could be more foreign than emotional excess – their upper lips are stiff as cricket bats.

This stiffness runs throughout the format of *Orphans*, where the reader gets a chance to marvel at how rigidly the writer sticks to the structure of his Booker-winning novel.

Christopher is driven by a trauma that befell him at the age of nine when his family lived in Shanghai: his parents disappeared suspiciously, and Christopher was orphaned of love (and seemingly, emotion). Throughout the novel, Christopher tries to find the logic surrounding this mystery. The character of Steven in *Remains* is motivated by similar circumstances: he seeks a reason for the departure of a woman with whom he might have had a romantic future.

Much of *Remains* revolves around Stevens' refusal to acknowledge his regret of losing a chance for love by putting his profession first. This denial produces his need to justify his past: by convincing himself of the importance of his work as a butler, which, in his opinion, made it necessary for him to neglect love.

The orphaned Christopher dedicates his life to combating "evil of the insidious, furtive kind." This mission eventually carries Christopher back to war-ravaged Shanghai, where he conducts a desperate last search for his parents. Blinded by his professional ambition and obsessed with his quest, Christopher puts his entire world at risk – his childhood memories, his profession, his love for a mesmerizing socialite, and eventually, even his sanity. Like Steven, Christopher spends his time explaining his negligence towards the woman that he really cared for. Both characters cite their professions as being nobler than their emotions. Since the plot of *Orphans* is hinged on the narration of Christopher's life, the similarity between his character to the anti-hero of the well-known *Remains* makes *Orphans* a predictable read.

For those who have not had the opportunity to appreciate Ishiguro's brilliance in *Remains*, the new *Orphans* may come across as a cunning piece of art.

Ishiguro draws the reader in with the familiar settings of the English mystery genre; *Orphans* is no exotic crime or mastermind sleuth novel. Besides Ishiguro's extensive research and recreation of 1950s Shanghai, which offers an exotic look back in history, *Orphans* also comes across as a social fable.

The character of Christopher may share the ambition and ethics that made Sherlock Holmes a household classic, but he is more of a solitary sleuth who fails to recognize the greater significance of events. Christopher cannot understand why society dubs him an "odd bird." His life as an expatriate in Shanghai does not give him the ability to see that evil has become an international enormity. He does not grasp that his chosen profession as a detective is irrelevant in the 1930s. Like the butler Steven in *Remains*, Christopher lives a dream that allows him to surround himself with hallucinations. In this sense, his self-importance allows him to continue living, despite his profession being so obviously obsolete. The compelling magic of *Orphans* and *Remains* come from the unreliable narratives that Christopher and Steven present to the reader. Their tales are elaborate hallucinations through which the reader must sift through to glimpse the truth.

Few writers make hallucinations seem as alluring as Ishiguro. Unfortunately, even Ishiguro cannot get away without making the surreal look banal at times. For those who have not had the opportunity to appreciate Ishiguro's brilliance in Remains, *Orphans* may come across as a cunning piece of art. However, seen in the wake of his past brilliance, *Orphans* is less of a breakthrough than a repeat of his previous triumph. For a writer who holds an amazing record of a major literary prize for every published novel (*A Pale View of Hills*, 1982 Winifred Holtby Prize; *An Artist of the Floating World* 1986 Whitbread Book of the Year Award), *Orphans* is a disappointment. Unless Ishiguro introduces new forms to the world of illusions in his next novel, it would seem that the writer is riding on the remains of his past brilliance.

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Spike & Mike's festival pleases the sick and twisted at the Roxy Theatre

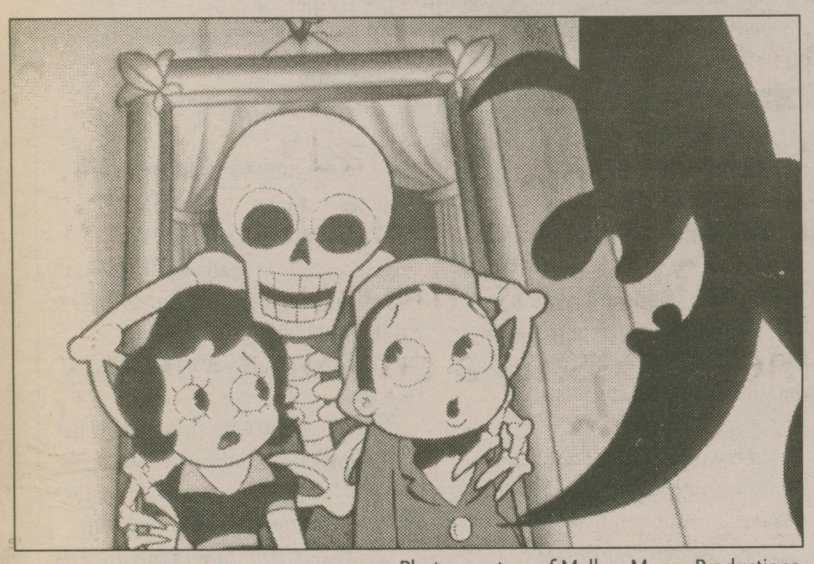


Photo courtesy of Mellow Manor Productions

***Ghost of Stephen Foster* by Raymond S. Persi and Matthew Nastuky**

by David G. Brown

Spike and Mike's Sick and Twisted Festival of Animation couldn't be more appropriately named. If you go down to the Roxy sometime in the next couple of weeks, you can get your fill of animated violence, anus-bleeding puffballs and crackwhores galore. Bring your parents and get in free.

At each screening, you get 15 animated shorts – anywhere between one and 10 minutes long – and a few 'bonus' clips. Why bonus, you might wonder? Well, the sickest and most twisted cartoons are left for last, of course. And they might just be so sick and twisted that Spike was afraid to feature them.

Okay, now let's back up.

Spike and Mike what?!

According to the ifilm.com website, Craig "Spike" Decker and Mike Gribble founded Mellow Manor Productions, Inc. in 1977. Mellow Manor originally promoted underground bands as well as "retro animated shorts."

After a few years of business, Spike and Mike began to see an increasing popularity in the shorts, so they began promoting them over bands and other films.

The Sick and Twisted Festival came out of the *Classic Festival of Animation*, where the duo premiered some of their early work. By 1990, a number of animated shorts that were (oh perhaps) a little too risqué, explicit or gross for the Classic Festival found a home with the Sick and Twisted.

Some now-mainstream productions that were birthed through the festival are *Beavis and Butthead* and *South Park*.

Unfortunately, Mike Gribble died in 1994 but Spike continues the festival each year, keeping the subversive art of the animated short alive.

Now back to this festival, which I am recommending you go see. That is, if you're not the type of person to be offended... by anything.

To start: Spike gives a short intro. He introduces the festival, tells the audience a little about it, and then he blows some shit up. (Pop bottles, milk cartons, Mexican figurines).

To the shorts: (a few of the ones worth mentioning, at least)

***Radioactive Crotch Man 3*, DNA Productions**

Poor Crotch Man gets his radioactive crotch powers drained from him and put into an evil robot. Don't worry, though. The wondercrotch regains its prowess.

***Rick and Steve: The Happiest Gay Couple in All the World*, Q. Allan Brocka**

It's amazing how much you can do with Lego and Lego people. I never thought you could be so suggestive. I was surprised there was so much tension in the *Happiest Gay Couple*'s life. Seems like the director may have been having a bad week.

***Monkey vs. Robot*, Geoff Marslett, music by James Kockalka Superstar**

A nice two-minute theme song to what could be a strange little cartoon. Monkeys and robots beating each other over the head, mostly.

***Coco, the Junkie Pimp 2*, Michael Comas and Pete Metzger**

Coco, a string-puppet clown, has lost his ability to pimp. As I watched this one, I couldn't shake the feeling that, if I had a video camera and a few string puppets, maybe I could get a short into this festival. It would probably be better than *Coco, the Junkie Pimp*. If you are thinking about running to the bathroom or to the snack bar, this is a good time to leave.

***Stinky Monkey*, David Lipson**

There are some extremely strange people in the world. A few of them like to spend their time making animated shorts.

***Angry Kid*, Aardman Animation**

Angry Kid was featured in a series of shorts throughout the two-hour screening. Strange, disturbing and quite funny. Everything was non-animated except for Angry Kid's head. Your life might feel more complete after you see this short. Or it might not.

***For the Birds*, Pixar Animation Studios**

I was surprised to see a Pixar short in the same company as *Radioactive Crotch Man* and the *Junkie Pimp*. (Pixar Animation is found in *Toy Story* and *A Bug's Life*). *For the Birds* was funny, but a little too cute (and clean) in the midst of some of the other titles.

***Rejected*, Don Hertzfeldt**

This 10-minute series of shorts had the entire theatre choking from laughing so hard. Some creative genius to be found in stick animation.

Spike and Mike's Sick and Twisted Festival of Animation will be around until Thursday, Nov. 30. Tickets are $6 at the Roxy Theatre, and you have to be 18+ to enter.

Spirit of the West kicks Vertigo crowd Celtic-style

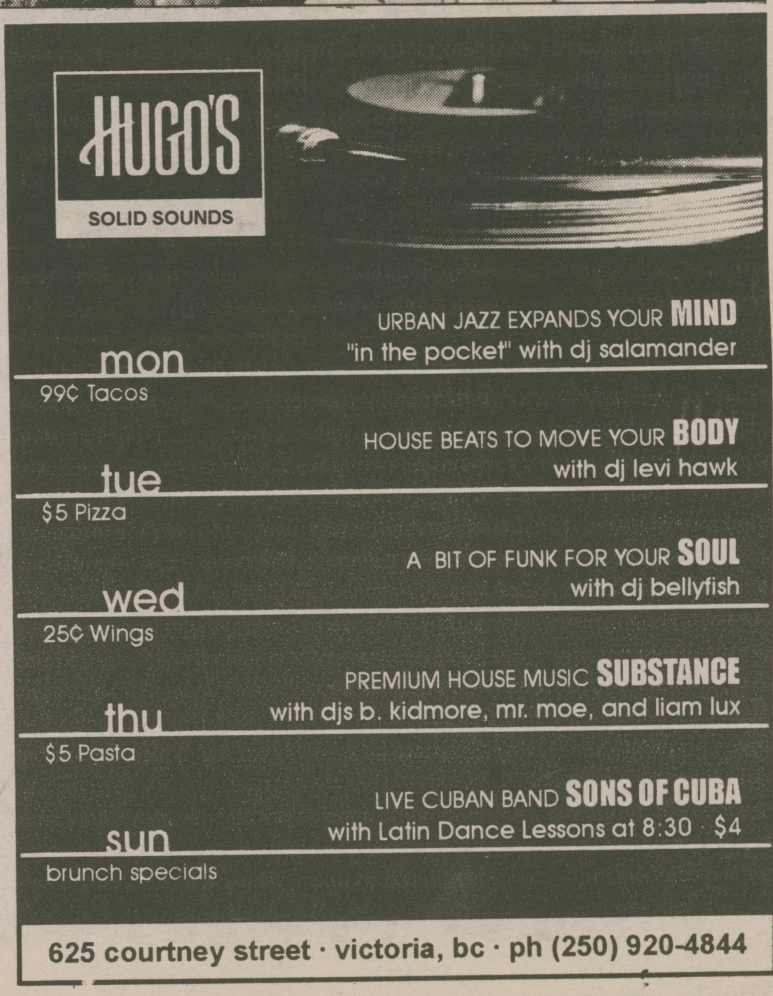
by Steve Cudmore

No one was surprised on Friday and Saturday when Vancouver-based band, Spirit of the West (SOTW) gave another brilliant performance. Well known as one of the nation's best live shows, the band, which played at Vertigo, has quite a reputation and a string of impressive accomplishments.

They've toured around the world, collaborated on the album *Open Heart Symphony* with the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra, and were recently asked to make a command appearance to play for the royal family of Sweden. Through numerous changes in line-up and sound, they've managed to become a long-standing fixture on the Canadian music scene. Commonly thought of as a "Celtic-rock" band, SOTW long ago evolved beyond that label. From mandolin-picking traditional folk sounds like "Tripping Up the Stairs" to the electric-wail and distortion in "Two-Headed," they offer a unique fusion of sounds on each of their nine albums. (I remember that, for a while, the catchall description for any band with a Celtic-rock sound was "they're a lot like Spirit of the West, before they went electric.")

SOTW excited the crowd with a selection of their best-known songs from all points in their history. This included, of course, their hits "Political" and "Venice is Sinking," as well as crowd-pleasers such as drinking songs "Home For a Rest" and "The Crawl," the latter of which is popular among the fans since drummer Vince Ditrich always takes time out during the song to demonstrate proper chug-a-lug technique.

Openers for the night were the Eccelstons, who played a competent combination of Irish traditionals and original songs in the same vein. The crowd also seemed to react favourably toward their traditional-folk-style cover of "Stayin' Alive." The local Celtic band sounds kind of like Spirit of the West – before they went electric.



Comedy meets tragedy on the wings of *The Seagull*

by Colin Plant

What a theatrical feast! The Phoenix Theatres' production of Anton Chekhov's play *The Seagull* is undeniably one of the most satisfying andmature productions the campus theatre has offered audiences in recent memory.

You'll have to forgive my hyperbole, but this production is definitely better than a big bowl of borscht. Featuring a talented ensemble of actors, effective and sensitive direction and an enchanting production design, this show is an excellent and thorough introduction to a Russian theatre classic that many consider tediously uneventful.

Director Linda Hardy deserves the majority of the credit for providing an interpretation that does not dwell solely on either the comic or tragic aspects of the play. Although Chekhov insisted that he wrote comedies, (the title page of the play is "A Comedy in Four Acts") and we do laugh at his characters, it is a sad and introspective kind of laughter. Wisely, Hardy opts for a version that highlights both the tragic and comic elements of the play.

Originally penned in 1896, *The Seagull* was initially dismissed as a failure. However, when Konstantine Stanislavski's Moscow Art Theatre remounted the work in 1898, the play and playwright were championed.

However, Chekhov remained frustrated with Stanislavski's heavy-handed, tragic approach to the subtleties of his writing. This began a long-lasting debate between the famous director and playwright as to whether or not his plays were tragic or comic. The director argued the former, the playwright the latter.

The lives of Chekhov's characters are not tragic, for tragedy implies hope. There is no hope for them: their lives are almost as ridiculous as their struggles to escape them. Chekhov once replied to a letter, "You write that you wept at my play. You are not the only one. But I wanted something quite different. All I wanted to say, quite honestly, was:

'Look at yourselves, just how stale and tedious your lives are.' What is there to weep at in that?"

Leading the cast are Robin Collins and Elicia Cronin in their roles as the tortured writer Konstantine, and his self-absorbed mother Arkadina. In a strong cast, they stood out as providing particularly convincing and nuanced portrayals. Also successful was Celine Stubel as Nina, the object of Konstantine's affection. Her sprite-like qualities early on in the play contrasted marvelously with her 'Ophelia-esque' transition into near madness at the end of the play. A final acting kudo must go to Alex Robertson for his touching portrayal of the aging Sorin.

As with most successful ensemble pieces, the quality of the acting is uniformly high. Hardy was successful in getting her cast to rise to the challenge of playing this emotionally mature script. And, despite the fact that some students were too young to accurately portray some of the roles they were playing, none of them stood out as unbelievable.

Faculty set designer Allan Stichbury created a delightfully atmospheric and functional set that resembled a Russian forest. The difficulty in designing *The Seagull* is that each of the four acts require a different location.

Stichbury's removable trees, minimalist furnishings and textured floor allowed us to switch from a lakeside setting to an interior den. Assisting in making the locales change easily was the deft lighting provided by Stratford Theatre Festival (and UVic alumni) lighting designer Michael Whitfield.

Also outstanding were the costumes designed by 20-year-old theatre student Jane Duncan. Duncan's background in the visual arts and in art history undoubtedly helped her create costumes that were both historically accurate and aesthetically captivating. Her luscious costuming of the female characters were particularly successful. Her costume choices went a long way in making each of the actors look more like the age they were playing. Bravo.

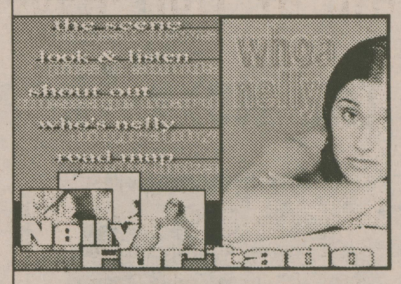
Faculty director Linda Hardy's staging is exquisite. From the opening moments of the servants building the exterior stage for Konstantine's play to the muted climax at the end of the play, Hardy paints her production with thoughtful strokes. There are no sloppy, perplexing moments in this production. Even the announcement of the intermission is creatively announced by the servants in the play. Hardy's use of the ever-present forest is particularly effective, cleverly using it for entrances and exits, but also to suggest how the characters are like the forests they inhabit themselves, natural and stoic.

Worth mentioning are student sound designer Jay Bennett and Department Music Director Robert Holliston. Their thoughtful acoustical additions were also very helpful in establishing the flavour of this 'Chekhovian stew.'

Hats off to the Phoenix Theatres for a wonderful production! The only negative worth mentioning is the fact the department has cut the length of the run of their plays from two and a half weeks to one and a half.

The Seagull runs until Nov. 25. For tickets or more information, call 721-8000.

Cd briefs



Nelly Furtado
Whoa, Nelly!

by Craig Battle

Here. I have an idea. Why don't we take every used, worn pop staple and put them on an album together? That way we'll seem original.

Then we'll get a good-looking young woman to sing through her nose. It'll be a big hit.

That's evidently how Nelly Furtado came to be, because there is nothing original at all on her smash debut album, *Whoa, Nelly!* The lyrics are sub par at best, the beats are stale, and the songwriting is formulaic.

Surprisingly, the varied influences – from trip hop to soft rock – mesh reasonably well. But the influences come off diluted, and ultimately leave you bored.

Still, *Whoa, Nelly!* is a surefire hit. People are starved for something new in pop music. Anything packaged slightly differently than Britney Spears or Christina Aguilera automatically looks just dandy – think Macy Gray.

Like Macy Gray, Nelly Furtado has a fascinating, nasally voice. So it really doesn't matter what she's saying, as long as she sounds cool saying it.

Some songs (not all) have nice hooks, as in the first single, "Like a Bird." It'll have you singing along when no one's around, but the rest will leave you reaching desperately for the stop button.

However, there's something about Nelly Furtado that takes me back to the most insecure moments of high school.

Maybe it's because she's pop music's next big thing, and I don't get her at all. Then again, maybe it's because she's a year older than me – I always had a thing for older girls.

In the end, I'd probably rather hear Nelly Furtado on the radio than either Britney or Christina, or even Macy Gray for that matter. So she can't be all bad.

Fastball
The Harsh Light of Day

Hey, when did the Wallflowers get a new lead singer?

You might ask yourself this question before realizing that what you hear coming from the speakers in the pub ceiling isn't tThe Wallflowers at all – it's Fastball. But it'll take you a while.

I don't know who ripped off who, but someone's getting screwed. It's almost like the two bands write songs together and split them up.

Fastball's sophomore album, *The Harsh Light of Day*, avoids any real criticism because it seems to hide behind itself. It's got catchy riffs, nice organ work and some surprisingly infectious choruses.

It's simple without being monotonous, and upbeat without the being overly loud. It's about the most conservative rock album you'll ever hear.

The Harsh Light of Day is the type of rock album that fits so nicely in the background. You'll probably tap your feet a little, and you won't feel the need to stand up and yell, 'What the fuck is this?'

The more attention you pay to the lyrics, the less you notice. Lines like, "Don't tell me about heartbreak. It ain't written in the stars," from *Love is Expensive and Free*, just leave you waiting for the punch line. There just has to be something more.

And as much as I hated Fastball's break-out hit, "The Way," there are songs on the disk that, I don't know, wore me down. "You're an Ocean" and "Goodbye" hooked me by the chorus on the second listen (up to that point, I was thoroughly unimpressed).

Luckily, nothing on *The Harsh Light of Day* reminded me of "The Way," and Jewel wasn't sampled once on the album. There are two reasons to love it already.

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Show review

Death cab for cutie at Thursdays

Death Cab For Cutie
Thurday's, Saturday Nov. 18.

by Lars Berry

"Thanks for sticking around," said Benjamin Gibbard to the thinning crowd at Thursday's on Saturday night. Bellingham, Washington's Death Cab For Cutie played a clean set, mostly from their 2000 full length, but with some new material including a couple songs from a recently released ep. As if we needed to be thanked for sticking around – they rocked.

Their opening song, "Title Track," featured vocalist Benjamin Gibbard's prosey lyrical honesty that recalls the voice of Built to Spill's Doug Martsch, and though Gibbard doesn't stand up straight when he sings, he delivers his words carefully; unlike a lot of rock shows, I could actually understand what he was saying. Gibbard's honest lyrics, in the melodically unusual yet oddly satisfying "For What Reason" from Death Cab For Cutie's 2000 full length, are as good an epitaph as any for Gibbard's aged-beyond-his-years narrative-style lyrics.

"In the end, I win every time as ink remains." Gibbard seems too young, for example, to have experienced the heartache of tasting "your lipstick on the filter." She is gone but her lipstick remains on the extinguished cigarette – this is sad stuff for someone so young; oh well, he'll grow into his sadness like we all do. Then again, blue spot-lights and a haze of cigarette smoke can take five years off the most rock-ravaged teenaged 28-year-old.

Bassist Nicholas Harmer seemed poised to give something to us fans beyond the narrative package delivered by Gibbard, but Harmer only stuttered "H-hi, hi" several times before quieting down and just rocking.

The band went without their amazingly effective samples that give Death Cab songs more depth and something beyond the deceptively simple tunes impelled by Gibbard's lyrics. I listened to their album many times before the show and so, predictably, I missed the electronic depth; But the rock remained.

The crowd had thinned considerably by the end of Death Cab's set which was unfortunate, but Gibbard thanked us a second time for sticking around and we all felt good and sipped our beer and called the band back for one more rock song. The encore was subdued, with all members sitting comfortably, but they played the odd little number "405" which has the narrator "misguided by the 405" into an "alcoholic summer" – an appropriate ending for our rambled tour of Gibbard's mental map of suburban Bellingham.

Fine lyrics, precise percussion, droopy tones from our rainy American friends, the true heartbreak of pent-up suburban angst – it all comes through in the rock of Death Cab For Cutie.

Out of the patch, into the indie scene

WINNIPEG (CUP) – Breaking away from a mainstream record label is hard to do. Just ask Canadian pop-rock duo the Wild Strawberries.

After spending five years on Canada's Nettwerk label, the Wild Strawberries left the company and reclaimed their indie roots. They started their own label and promoted their latest album *Twist* themselves, allowing Universal Music to handle just the manufacturing and distribution of the album.

The husband-and-wife band, composed of lead singer Roberta Carter Harrison and songwriter Ken Harrison, is in a transition period right now. While managing almost every aspect of their recording careers themselves, they're also keeping up a grueling pace on their current Canadian tour. Every stop means a concert or an HMV in-store appearance, all the while tending to Georgia, their two-and-a-half year old daughter.

"It's tons of work," says Roberta of their new independence. "I kind of hope that it slows down but I also don't, because if it slows down it means that we're not doing our jobs."

Twist is the duo's happiest album in years, and their creative joy is evident in every one of the hook-laden, intelligent pop tracks. It's a stark contrast to their 1998 disc, *Quiver*.

"I hated the process of making *Quiver*," says Ken. "We were fighting with our record company all the time. But I loved the end result. I don't have any regrets about it."

It's a touchy subject for Roberta, too. "Every time we sent a song [to Nettwerk]," Roberta says. "It was like, 'Well, can't you sound more like this? You know, whatever's at the top of the charts this week?' And it would change a lot. The feedback we were getting wasn't consistent. It just always seemed to be about what was at the top of Billboard.

"We think the problem with record companies isn't even necessarily in the marketing," Roberta says. "It's in the A&R, when people that aren't necessarily very musical step in and try to change the artist's vision."

It's easy to understand why the band went out on their own, considering the heavy financial debt brought on by A&R suggestions.

"A&R was established as a process to hook songwriters up with singers and find songs for singers," Ken explains. "[But it] has turned into this kind of weird anxiety machine. Now it's about getting remixes for songs from whoever's hot or just had a hit – which is totally antithetical to what we, as musicians, want to do. We want to make something that's unique. We don't want something to sound like the Boomtang Boys' last remix of, you know, fill-in-the-artist."

Ken is referring to the Boomtang Boys' remix of the Strawberries' single "Pretty Lip." According to Ken, Nettwerk insisted that the song would not succeed as a single without the remix. The remix process took one day to complete; the result was *Quiver*'s second flop single.

It all contributes to Ken's argument against A&R, which, he explains, is the real reason the Strawberries struggled in a traditional music industry setup. "A&R is death to art," he says.

In the early '90s, the Wild Strawberries also faced problems with their distributor, A&M Records. "You're starting to wonder if it's just us, right?" Roberta shouts in mock outrage. "Is that what you're saying?"

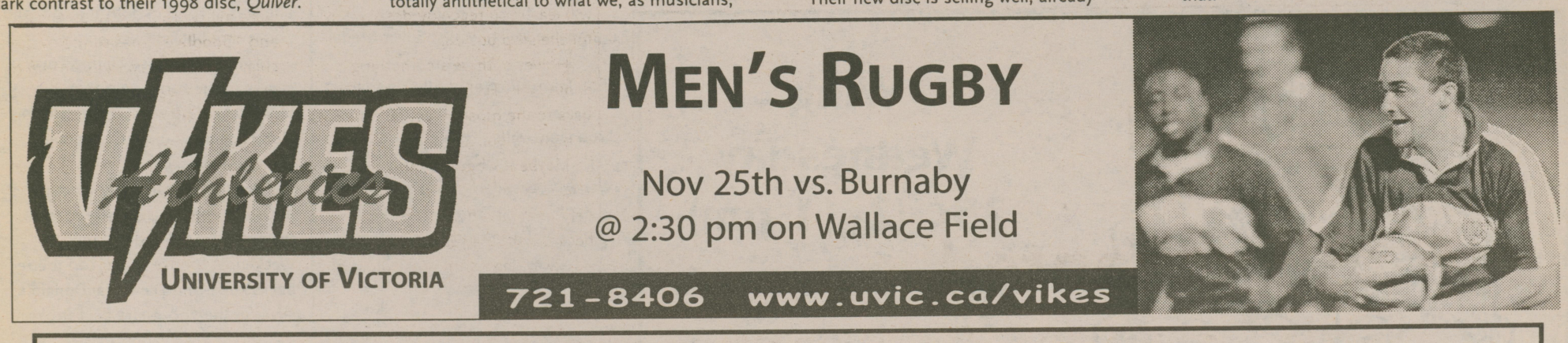
The band's problems with A&M was one of the things that drove them into the arms of Nettwerk. "We thought Nettwerk was the right answer," says Roberta.

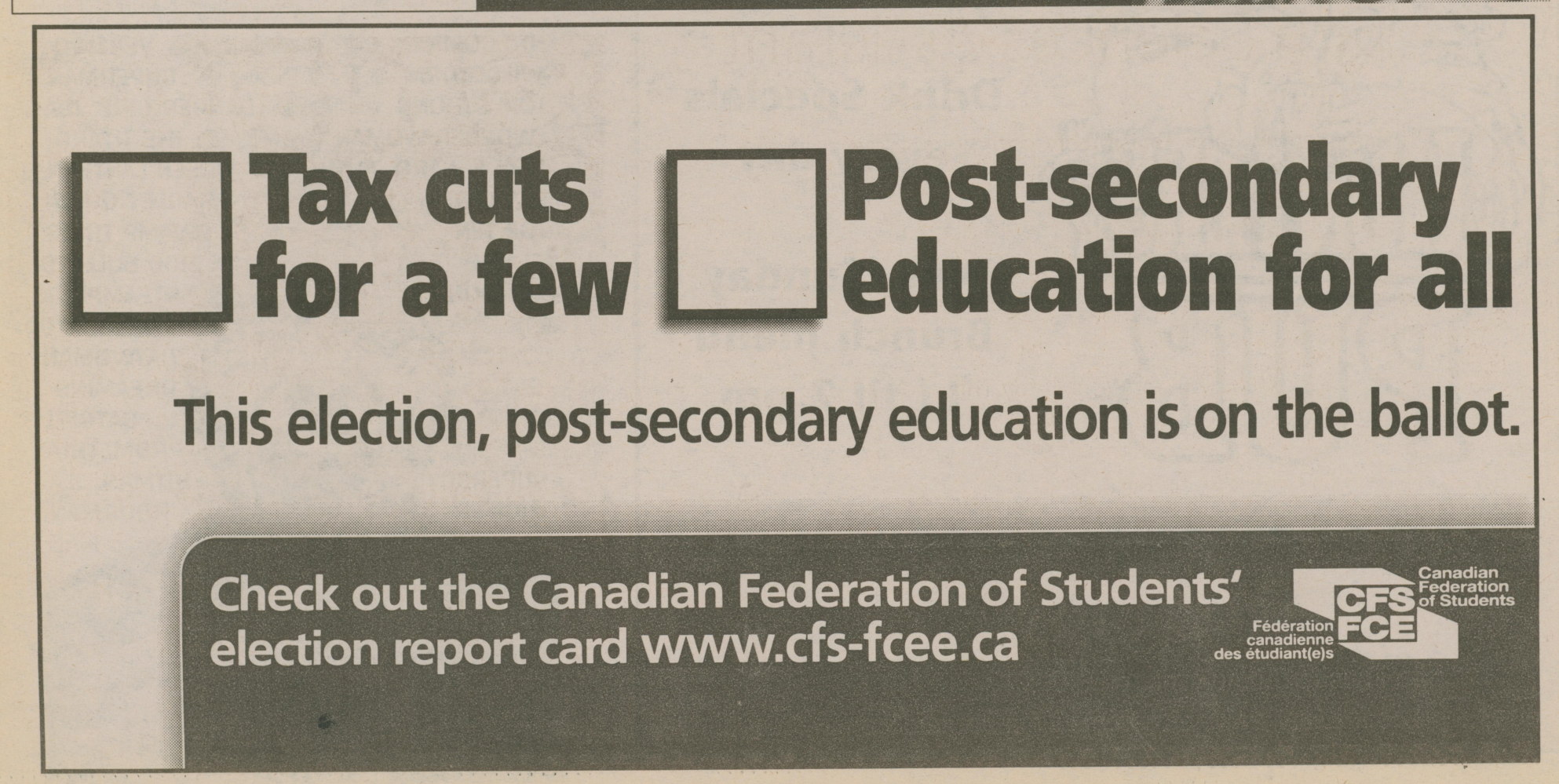
"We thought instead of [signing] with a big, evil record company we could go with a cool company that cares about music. And that worked for a while... I think partly their mandate changed and it was more about money and commercial success."

Their new disc is selling well, already

equaling the sales of *Quiver*. The Strawberries are no longer caged by record label paradigms and are facing the future on their own terms.

"I think now is the first time in five or six years that we've really had an opportunity to do whatever the hell we want musically," Roberta says. "I hope we get to take ourselves up on that."

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Women's cross country: Vikes capture third straight CIAU title

by Dena vanDalfsen

The women's cross-country team has been without question UVic's most successful sports program for the last three years. This year's victory marks the third win in as many years and makes Victoria the most most successful team in CIAU women's cross-country history.

Their most recent win was totally unexpected. Victoria was ranked third behind Guelph and Western before the races were held Nov. 11 in Toronto's Sunnybrook Park. "We weren't expected to win, but we did by 20 points," said Stephanie Mills, the women's team veteran runner. "I think that shows the strength of our program."

A young men's team also finished the university season on a high note with a tenth-place finish. The University of Guelph Gryphons took the men's title for the second consecutive year.

Mills was the women's top finisher and the only UVic medallist. "I was happy with my run because I finished better than the year before, " said Mills. She said she started out slowly and was in tenth spot when she started working her way to the front. "I didn't have enough space," said Mills who finished one second behind the first place medallist, the University of Waterloo's Debbie Buhlers who finished with a time of 18:03.

Guelph had three top 10 runners, but Mills points out that UVic's fifth place runner was way ahead of the Guelph Gryphon's fourth place finisher and that is what makes the difference at CIAU's the way the scores are totalled.

University of Saskatchewan's Jamie Epp won the men's race. The Vikes top finisher was Kris Swanson. "I had an okay race, potentially it could have been better," said Swanson. Positively Swanson noted that "everyone ran together as a team." Josh Henderson was also happy with the way the team raced as well as his own race. Henderson improved vastly from last year finishing 30 spots better.

Rookie honours were earned by University of Manitoba Bison's Will Thrift in the men's race and the University of Toronto's Sasha Gollish on the womens' team.

UVic's coach Brent Fougner shared CIAU Coach of the Year honours with the University of Guelph's David Scott-Thomas. It is the seventh time Fougner has been recognized for his coaching abilities. Fougner is currently in Chiba, Japan for the Ekiden Road Relay. This is Fougner's third trip to Chiba for the event, where the marathon distance is broken into five legs. Fougner flies directly to Toronto to coach at the National Cross-Country Championship. He will be joined in Toronto by the champion Vikes women's team as well as a number of past and current Vikes including juniors Nancy Fedoruk and Kris Swanson, and alumni Barbora Brych, Graham Cocksedge, Jim Finlayson and Paddy McCluskey to round out the BC team.

Two weeks after the CIAU's many of the same UVic runners are heading back to Toronto for the National Cross-Country Championship, an open event, unlike the CIAU's which are exclusive to university students. This race is important because from it national rankings are derived.

Mills is looking for a top 10 finish at nationals. Mills sees no problem improving on last year's 12th place finish. "I won't be jet-lagged this time," she said. Last year, Mills had done what coach Fougner is doing this year and had not fully recovered from her experience in the Chiba Ekiden.

On the men's side Swanson is looking for a better overall finish at nationals than he had last year. "I came of CIAU's injured," said Swanson. "So I'm just trying to rest up right now."

Mills noted that this was the first nationals for many runners on the UVic team. "They are going for the experience and are under a lot less pressure." Henderson is one of the students hoping to gain a little experience at that level of competition. "I want to run faster and improve on my times," said Henderson. The trip will also let him know what to expect from upcoming years.

photo by Richard Warrington

Stephanie Mills is the first female Vike to finish at UVic's Beacon Hill Invitational event held Oct. 14.

Top 10 Women's Team Results:

1 **VICTORIA VIKES**
2 GUELPH GRYPHONS
3 WESTERN MUSTANGS
4 MANITOBA BISONS
5 MCGILL MARTLETS
6 QUEEN'S GOLDEN GAELS
7 ST.FRANCIS X-WOMEN
8 LAKEHEAD THUNDERWOLVES
9 WATERLOO WARRIORS
10 CALGARY DINOS

Top 10 Men's Team Results:

1 GUELPH GRYPHONS
2 ALBERTA GOLDEN BEARS
3 SHERBROOKE VERT & OR
4 MCMASTER MARAUDERS
5 SASKATCHEWAN HUSKIES
6 MANITOBA BISONS
7 TORONTO BLUES
8 WATERLOO WARRIORS
9 DALHOUSIE TIGERS
10 VICTORIA VIKES

Women's Medallist:

Stephanie Mills - Vikes: Silver Medal

First Team Women's All-Canadians

Stephanie Mills - Vikes 18:04.

Wendy Cocksedge - Vikes 18:35

Swimming brief

by Chelsea Smith

The University of Victoria swim team demonstrated once again that they are a force in the pool with multiple winning performances at the Island Pacific Cup, held Nov. 10-11 at the Saanich Commonwealth Pool.

"The performances this weekend were a good assessment point and a chance to race leading up to the World Cup for those who were ranked in the top 12 in Canada last year," said head coach Peter Vizsolyi.

First-year rookie Karley Stutzel dominated the women's freestyle events. She claimed gold in the 200- and 400-metre events, silver in the 800-metre, and bronze in the 100-metre.

Jesse Jacks and David Creel, two swimmers who are quickly establishing themselves as Vikes powerhouses, teamed up to nab first and second place in the men's distance freestyle events.

Jacks was first in the 400-metre with a personal best time, and first in the 1500-metre. He was chased by Creel who placed second in both races.

Jacks also won both men's 100- and 200-metre butterfly. He has gone undefeated in these two events so far this season. Creel also placed second in the 400-metre individual medley and third in the 200-metre IM.

"I think we will have a strong season if we can get everyone to race well all the time and make the CIAU time standards," said Vizsolyi.

Kellie Rolston, who struggled against a bout of the flu all weekend, toughed it out to claim gold in her specialties, the 100- and 200-metre butterfly events.

Tiffany Jones swam her way to a double medal performance as well. She was second in both the 100- and 200-metre backstroke.

Josee Dubois also claimed two silvers in the 100- and 200-metre breastroke. She was second to Vikes alumni and two-time Olympian, Christin Petelski.

Other Vikes capturing medals included: Amber Lunn's bronze in the 50-metre freestyle; Dan Weckend's bronze in the 100-metre backstroke; and Dave MacDonald's silver in the 200-metre backstroke.

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CIAU scores and standings

Men's Basketball

Canada West

	G	W	L	Pt.	Pct.
Alberta	8	7	1	14	.875
Victoria	8	4	4	8	.500
UBC	8	4	4	8	.500
SFU	6	3	3	6	.500
Saskatchewan	8	3	5	6	.375
Calgary	8	3	5	6	.375
Trinity Western	8	3	5	6	.375
Lethbridge	8	3	5	6	.375

GPAC

	G	W	L	Pt.	Pct.
Brandon	8	7	1	14	.875
Winnipeg	6	3	3	6	.500
Manitoba	6	3	3	6	.500
Regina	6	1	5	2	.167

Women's Basketball

Canada West

	G	W	L	Pt.	Pct.
Calgary	8	7	1	14	.875
SFU	6	6	0	12	1.000
Victoria	8	6	2	12	.750
Alberta	8	4	4	8	.500
Saskatchewan	8	4	4	8	.500
UBC	8	2	6	4	.250
Lethbridge	8	0	8	0	.000
Trinity Western	8	0	8	0	.000

GPAC

	G	W	L	Pt.	Pct.
Regina	6	5	1	10	.833
Manitoba	7	5	2	10	.714
Winnipeg	7	4	3	8	.571
Brandon	8	2	6	4	.250

CIAU National Rankings
Men's Basketball

Last week's ranking in parenthesis

1. Western Ontario	(1)
2. St. Francis Xavier	(2)
3. Alberta	(3)
4. Brandon	(4)
5. McMaster	(5)
6. Carleton	(6)
7. Concordia	(8)
8. St. Mary's	(7)
9. York	(9)
10. Winnipeg	(10)

As of November 19/2000

CIAU National Rankings
Women's Basketball

1. Victoria	(1)
2. Manitoba	(3)
3. Regina	(2)
4. SFU	(4)
5. Calgary	(5)
6. Alberta	(6)
7. Winnipeg	(7)
8. Laval	(8)
9. Laurentian	(10)
10. UBC	(9)

Vikes B-Ball Results

Nov. 10:
M: Manitoba 65, Victoria 61
W: Manitoba 71, Victoria 78
Nov. 11:
M: Manitoba 61, Victoria 69
W: Manitoba 58, Victoria 65

Nov. 17:
M: UBC 51, Victoria 66
W: UBC 56, Victoria 58
Nov 18:
M: UBC 67, Victoria 63
W: UBC 61, Victoria 64

Vikes men and women take soccer bronze

by Jeremy Shragge

Women's

In the world of CIAU championship tournaments there is one inescapable exigency, one fate determining reality, which all teams face.

It is a strategic necessity that, with few exceptions (field hockey for one), can single handedly separate the prospective finalists from the rest of the competition. A fact of life known as "winning the first game."

At the CIAU Women's Soccer Championships, held over the weekend of Nov. 9-12, the University of Victoria Vikes were unable to unburden themselves of the opening victory milestone.

On Thursday afternoon, Victoria fell to the University of Ottawa Gee Gees by a score of 2-0.

"The first-half was one of our best 45 minutes of soccer all season," said Vikes head coach Bruce Wilson. The major problem, he noted, was a lack of scoring chances generated by his team.

The more experienced Gee-Gees denied the Vikes all but a few opportunities on goal; the central effect of which, according to Wilson, was to virtually guarantee victory to the team that scored first.

Ten minutes after the restart, Ottawa's Erin Lepage gave her team a 1-0 lead. She added a second at the 68-minute mark to put the match beyond Victoria's reach.

Despite what the loss did to the Vikes' chances of qualifying for the final (i.e. obliterating them), Wilson was quite philosophical:

"If we played Ottawa ten times, they would beat us six or seven."

The defeat relegated the Canada West Champion Vikes to fight for the tournament bronze medal.

After defeating the host Acadia University Axewomen (the third team in Pool B) by a score of 2-0, Victoria's road to a podium finish came down to the number one ranked McGill Martlets and their ace striker Amber Allen.

As with the tournament opener, the bronze medal match was a highly contested business. The nil-nil score at the half looked as if it was going to hold up until full-time, thereby forcing penalties kicks.

In the 86th minute, however, the Vikes took control of their own destiny. A corner from Victoria captain Tricia Warrender found its way to the feet of teammate Charlotte Haley and then into the back of the net.

Sunday's 1-0 victory gave the Vikes their second top three finish at the CIAU tournament in the past three seasons. (They took the silver at home in 1998.)

It also had the effect of extending the Canada West conference's record of consecutive medal finishes at nationals to 14 years – every year the championship has been held.

Victoria forward Wanda Rozwadowska and midfielder Joann Nash were named tournament all-stars.

Despite the disappointing finish at the CIAU playoffs, Bridge was still prepared to call his team's campaign a success. "We achieved every other goal we set for ourselves," he said.

"But," he added, "to barely fall short at the last and most difficult hurdle, to me, is a pretty successful season."

Men's

It has become cliché amongst sports writers to report on coaches' biggest fears. The men and women who skipper both amateur and professional athletic teams love to talk about the one factor or situation that causes them to proverbially shit themselves the fastest.

The problem with this practice is that an individual coach's biggest fear tends to change depending on the specific game or situation.

Take for example Bruce Wilson, head coach of the University of Victoria men's soccer team. Entering the national playoff tournament at Hamilton's McMaster University two weeks ago (Nov. 9-12), Wilson's squad was Canada West conference champion for the second consecutive year, and the number-two ranked team in the country.

The Vikes were stacked with talent from the goal (first team All-Canadian keeper Dominic Butcher), all the way to the forwards (first team All-Canadian striker Chris Craveiro and Canada West scoring champion Jason Owen), and thus the prospects of winning their second national title in five years were ripe.

It never happened.

The Victoria team was beset by a syndrome that strikes fear into the hearts of soccer coaches worldwide: an inability to finish.

"I just think," said Wilson, "that up front we didn't do what we did all year."

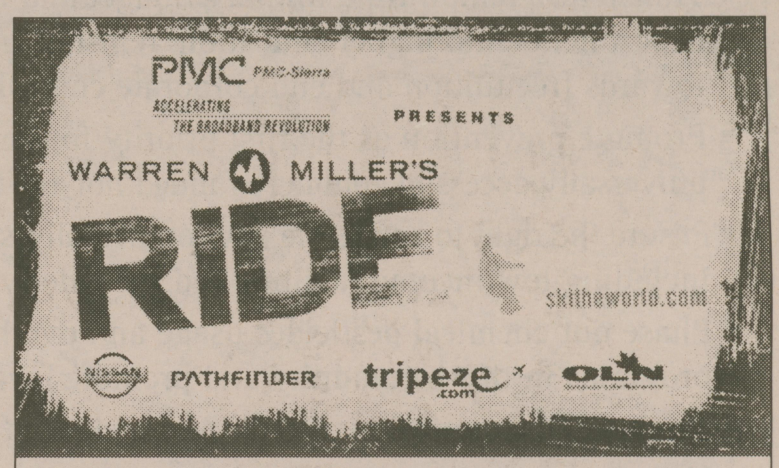
After winning their opening match against the outmatched Laurentian University Voyageurs, 1-0, the Vikes went down to defeat at the hands of the Waterloo Warriors, 2-1.

"They had very few chances," said Wilson in reference to the Warriors. "But the chances they had they buried."

In the narrow victory over Laurentian, Victoria utterly dominated. "We created enough chances to score 10 goals in that game," said the Vikes Coach. Unfortunately, the frustrated play displayed against the Voyageurs portended future disaster.

In the bronze medal match, the Vikes took on the number one ranked McGill Redmen. After a scoreless 90 minutes, the match went into penalty kicks.

True to form, Craveiro proved the difference in the tie-breaker giving the Vikes a 1-0 victory and a third-place finish.



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Vikes B-ball:

Despite nagging injuries to several key players, the University of Victoria women's basketball team increased their winning streak to six games this past weekend.

At home against arch-rivals the UBC Thunderbirds, the Vikes walked off the parquet on both Friday and Saturday nights, with narrow victories, 58-56 and 64-61 respectively.

With their two starting post players, Angela Mangan and Lindsay MacDonald, seeing much reduced playing time due to persistent trauma, the Vikes have been suffering down low.

In particular, Victoria's rebounding has fallen on hard times. "It's been a constant battle this year – our rebounding game," said head coach Kathy Shields.

"It's kind of been a true indicator of our play."

One week earlier the Vikes had what Shields called their best weekend of the year against the then undefeated Manitoba Bisons. In their first home games of the regular schedule, the Vikes defeated Manitoba by scores of 78-71 and 65-58.

In men's action the squad split their fourth consecutive series of the season against UBC. The Vikes won Friday night by the low score of 66-51. On Saturday the tables were turned as the Thunderbirds delivered Victoria a 67-63 loss.

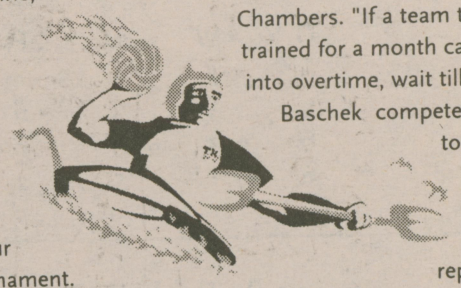
The Victoria Devils: a rising force in Canadian canoe polo

University of Victoria canoe polo neophytes have a strong showing at Peace Country tournament

by Tim Harvey

It's played with paddles and a ball, but the sport of canoe polo is a long way from ping-pong.

Don't be thrown by the name. The sport is played with kayaks – not canoes – in a swimming pool. And in Canada, it is played all night long.



In Grande Prairie, AB, 67 players – including five from UVic – competed in "Midnight Madness" last weekend, a marathon 13-hour canoe polo tournament.

Strategically, canoe polo is similar to hockey or basketball, with goals hung about two metres above the pool surface. The ball can be played by hand or paddle, and players may capsize anyone in possession of the ball.

The Victoria Devils are a team recently formed from members of UVic's Whitewater Kayak Club, with whom they train in MacKinnon pool on Friday nights.

The inexperienced Devils placed fourth out of eight teams in Grande Prairie; their success is a credit to coach Burkard Baschek, a Ph.D., student who played canoe polo in his native Germany, where the sport is popular.

"After playing for only a month, the teamwork [of the Devils] was unbelievable," said Baschek.

In the pivotal game, which featured two disallowed goals, the Devils managed to force Canada's canoe-polo powerhouse, the University of Alberta club, into sudden-death overtime.

Victoria's hopes for an upset were finally shattered by the heavily favoured U of A team when a cannon-force shot ploughed into the back of the goal.

The Devils needed the win to secure a spot in the championship match for either first or second place in the eight-team club division.

Unfortunately, Victoria's all-rookie team, composed of UVic students Vanessa Corre, Tim Ferguson, Chambers and Harvey, were unable to prevent the heartbreaking defeat.

"We did better than I expected" said Corre. "You really share something with your team when you spend 12 hours in a tournament."

In what was their first major competition, the Devils placed fourth, behind three teams from U of A.

"U of A better watch out," said Chambers. "If a team that has only trained for a month can force them into overtime, wait till we get better."

Baschek competed in the tournament, uniting with an international squad representing B.C. in the open division. Transplanted Australian Tristan Crees of the Canadian national squad, former South Africa captain Sam Mottram and Denise Lowing of Cranbrook, B.C. rounded out the team.

The foursome played with great finesse but lost a critical match against the team that won the open division title. The B.C. team scored more goals (22) and allowed fewer (7) than any other team, but finished third overall.

"We really came together after the loss" said Mottram. B.C. won their final match 9-1.

The first-place team included 53 year-old canoe polo-legend Dale O'Brien, builder of Canada's first polo boats, and his 17-year-old daughter Kristina.

Although Alberta has hosted and won canoe polo tournaments throughout the decade (Edmonton is the sport's Canadian hotbed), Canadians across the country have begun playing the new sport.

In Grande Prairie, the Victoria Devils delivered the following message loud and clear: B.C is a strong and rising force in Canadian canoe polo.

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- Promote prevention as the first priority for health care & support universally accessible publicly funded not-for-profit
- Ensure the right to accessible environmentally-sound housing including low income families and the elderly
- Phase out chemical pesticides usage and overhead spraying programs in this community and promote local organic produce
- Promote transportation alternatives including light rail
- Halt the expansion of natural gas onto Vancouver Island, & fund the promotion of energy alternatives
- Support tertiary sewage treatment to end the dumping of our wastes into the ocean
- End the entry of nuclear ships into Canadian waters
- Complete the Sea to Sea Green Blue Belt
- Establish a mixed proportional representation system where the number of seats more closely reflects the percentage of the popular vote
- Provide safe anti-racism sites & support increased funding for the Arts

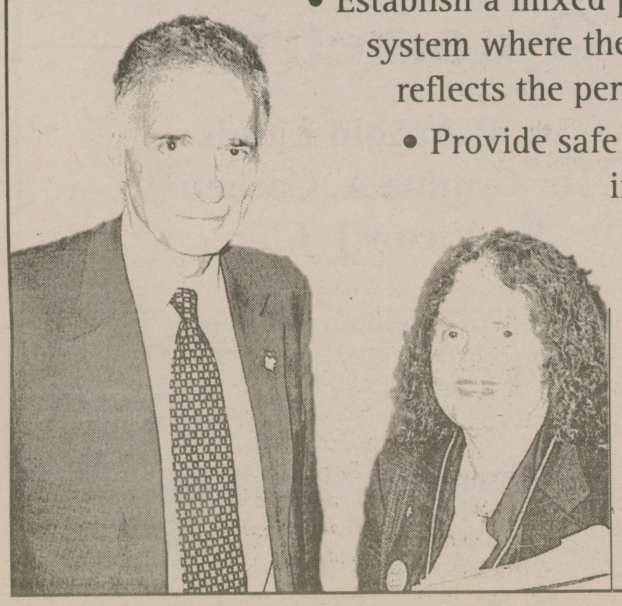

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Photo: Ralph Nader & Joan Russow, June 2000

Authorized by David White,
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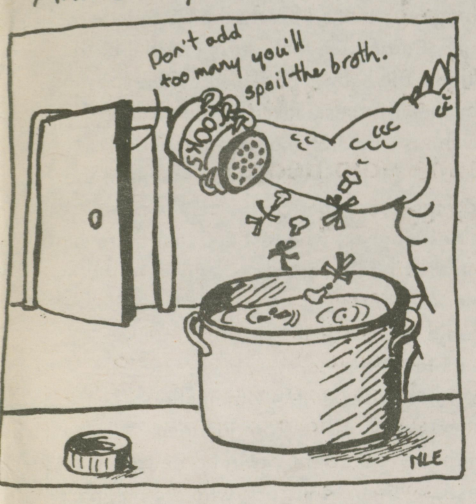
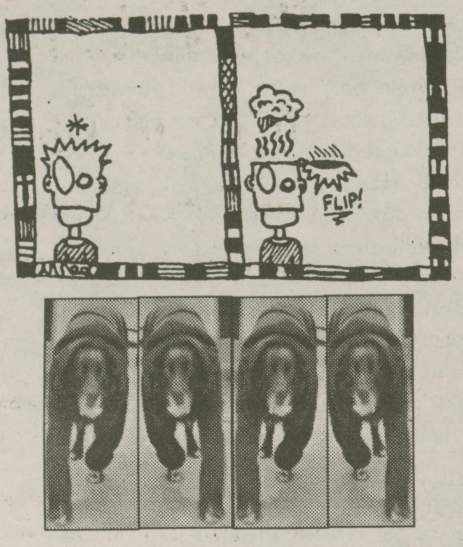
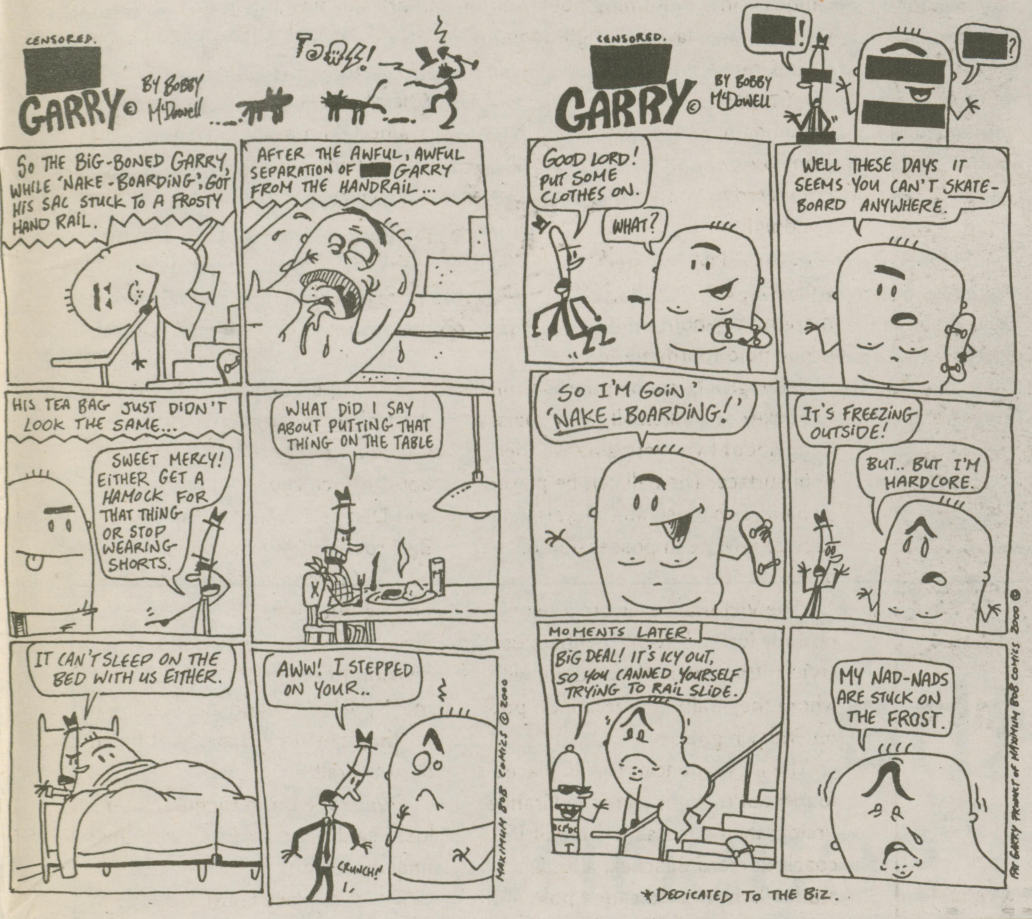




EVER FEEL STRESSED BY SCHOOL? THIS ONE'S FOR YOU: TERM-END BLUES BY TIM MARVEY
WELL...
HI, RALPH! HOW YA DOIN'?
I'VE GOT THIS BRUTAL ENGLISH ASSIGNMENT BREATHING DOWN MY NECK
GEEZ, THAT'S UGLY
IT'S SUCKING THE LIFE RIGHT OUT OF ME!
I CAN RELATE
ART HISTORY IS WREAKING HAVOC ON MY LIVER. THE DAMAGE MAY BE PERMANENT!
ART HISTORY
THERE'S FRANK - HE WENT SURFING OVER READING BREAK.
IT REALLY SHOWS!
WHAT'S YOUR MAJOR, FRANK?
I WISH I COULD DECIDE!
ENGLISH
CHEMISTRY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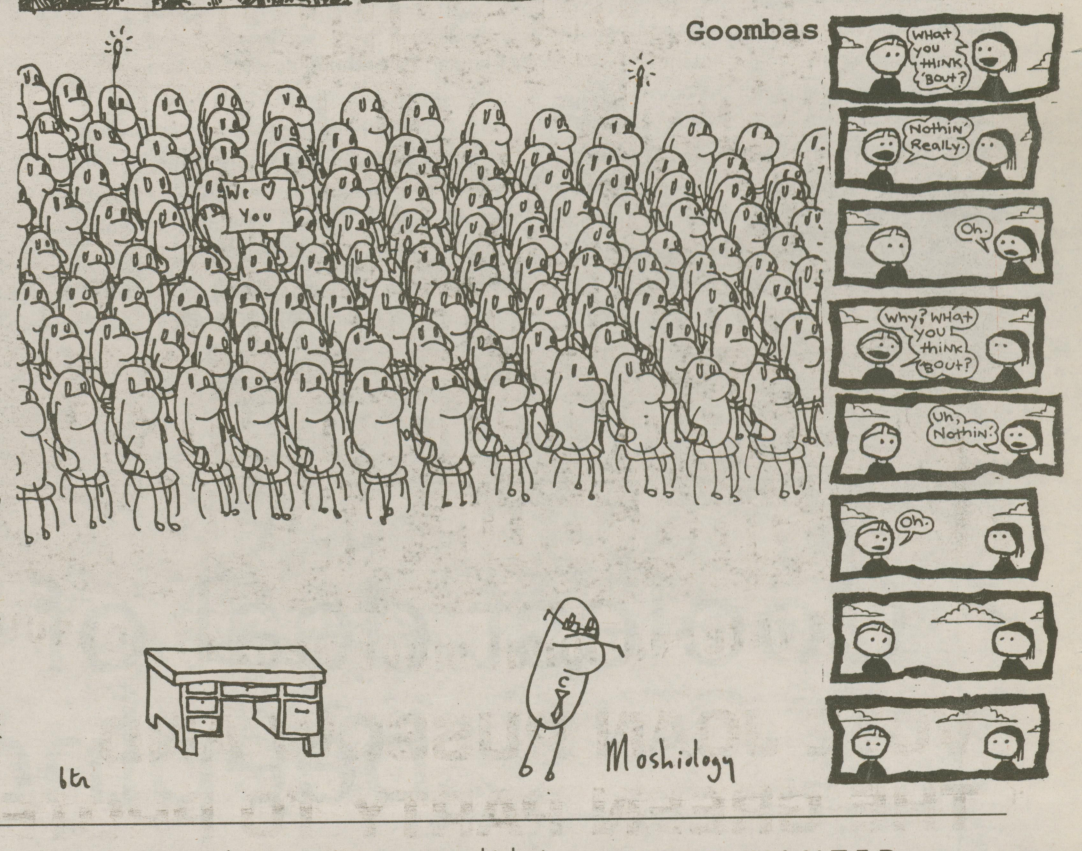
GARRY © BY BOBBY McDOWELL
So THE BIG-BONED GARRY, WHILE 'NAKE-BOARDING', GOT HIS SAC STUCK TO A FROSTY HAND RAIL.
AFTER THE AWFUL, AWFUL SEPARATION OF GARRY FROM THE HANDRAIL...
HIS TEA BAG JUST DIDN'T LOOK THE SAME...
SWEET MERCY! EITHER GET A HAMOCK FOR THAT THING OR STOP WEARING SHORTS.
WHAT DID I SAY ABOUT PUTTING THAT THING ON THE TABLE
IT CAN'T SLEEP ON THE BED WITH US EITHER.
AWW! I STEPPED ON YOUR..
CRUNCH!
MALIGNANT BOB COMICS © 2000

CENSORED
GARRY © BY BOBBY McDOWELL
GOOD LORD! PUT SOME CLOTHES ON.
WHAT?
WELL THESE DAYS IT SEEMS YOU CAN'T SKATE-BOARD ANYWHERE.
SO I'M GOIN' 'NAKE-BOARDING!'
IT'S FREEZING OUTSIDE!
BUT.. BUT I'M HARDCORE.
MOMENTS LATER.
BIG DEAL! IT'S ICY OUT, SO YOU CANNED YOURSELF TRYING TO RAIL SLIDE.
MY NAD-NADS ARE STUCK ON THE FROST.
MALIGNANT BOB COMICS © 2000
*DEDICATED TO THE BIZ.



ON CAMPUS

Victoria Candidates Debate on the Environment. Hear the candidates' views on endangered species, national parks, G.E. foods, global warming, First Nations and other key issues. Ask your question at the open microphone! David Anderson, Joan Russow, David Turner, Brian Burchill and Bruce Hallsor. **Thurs. Nov. 23,** from 7 to 9:30 p.m. at the UVic David Lam Auditorium, MacLaurin Building.

Women on the Move – Learn how to move your body in a healthy, fun and balanced way. Classes include kickboxing, pilates, Tai'Chi, metakinesis and more. **Sat. Nov. 25** at 8:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. in the McKinnon Bldg. $25 for non-members, $20 for members; includes workshops and refreshments. Tickets are available at Bolen Books, McKinnon and BCEDA. Call 383-2755 for more info.

HIV and sexualized violence: Rosanne Johnson (Women's Outreach Coordinator for AIDS Vancouver) and a panel representing the Positive Women's Network discuss HIV and sexualized violence **Wed. Nov. 29** in UVic's SUB B028, 1:30 - 3:30 p.m. For more info, call Our Sexual Assault Centre at 472-4388 or drop by SUB B027.

The UVSS Women's Centre and the Status of Women Action Group are hosting a **Dec. 6 Memorial Coffeehouse** at Bean Around the World, 533 Fisgard St., from 7 - 9:30 p.m. on **Wed. Dec. 6 2000.** Admission is free, and all women, children and men are welcome to attend. If any women are interested in performing (music, poetry, art), contact Kate Dimofski at 721-8353.

Don't know if you qualify for an Academic Concession? See the UVSS Ombudsperson. SUB B205. Call 721-8357 or e-mail ombuddy@uvic.ca

"Ring-Out" the week with Inter Varsity Christian Fellowship every Friday night! Everyone is welcome to join us for Praise, Worship, Singing, Prayer, Fellowship and Teaching! Have a Bible? Bring it! See you Friday nights for Ring-Out in Cle C 112 at 7:30 p.m.

OFF CAMPUS

Like a Dream that Vanishes – The films of Barbara Sternberg, **Thurs. Nov. 23** at 7:30 p.m. at Camosun College, Lansdowne Campus, Fisher Bldg. Rm. 100. Admission by donation. Don't miss this opportunity to see the work of one of Canada's preeminent filmmakers. More info at 381-4423.

Café Philosophy: Taking public philosophy to a new level. Next Evil: What is evil? Is evil in the eye of the beholder? Where do *you* draw the line? **Wed. Nov. 29** at 7:30 p.m. at Torrefazione Italia (1234 Government St.), Cover $4/$3 for students. **"Food for Thought"** pre-session starts at 6:30 p.m. For more information call Michael Picard, Ph.D., at 385-4646 or e-mail pyro@philosophy-shop.com

Damsel or Dragon? The C. G. Jung Society of Victoria presents an introduction to fairy tale interpretation with Jungian Analyst Shirley Halliday at the Monterey Centre (1442 Monterey) on **Fri. Dec. 1** at 7:30 p.m. $12 members/$15 nonmembers.

Drawings by Sandra Levy will be exhibited in the Ministry of Health Building, 1515 Blanshard St. from **Dec. 4 - Jan. 5.** Mon. to Fri., 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

VOLUNTEERS

Enriching our community through friendship! Community Connections reaches out to persons who have a developmental disability, fosters friendship, community inclusion and shared fun! Consider spending a few hours each week as a mentor and friend. Find out how you can make a difference! Call Citizen Advocacy today at 598-6786.

Use your strengths to help someone realize theirs! Everyone deserves the chance to participate in their favourite activity. Recreation Integration Victoria is looking for male volunteers to provide one-on-one assistance for people with disabilities in a recreational setting. To get involved or for more information, call Mark at 477-6314.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

United Way open stage fundraiser. Grad Students' Lounge, Ida and George Halpern building. **Thurs. Nov. 23,** 7 - 10:30 p.m. Donations gratefully received. Everyone welcome. Supported by UVic's Food Services. Sound system provided – bring your instrument and talent.

Sock Drive! Help the homeless! Fill a sock with personal care items and drop it off into one of the boxes located in MacLaurin, Clearihue, Cunningham and Classroom buildings. Socks will be delivered to the Streetlink Emergency Shelter and the Sandy Merriman Women's Shelter.

Records Services wants your "Mailing Address." For information and instructions check your address on Webview (www.uvic.ca/reco) before **Dec. 15**.

Pottery Classes available. Six 2.5 hour classes, $140 + GST. Call 383-5446 for more details.

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HEY YOU

Mom, we're really looking forward to seeing you again soon, we can make sugar cookie together. With love, Marcus and Tyler.

Happy belated 'B' day Lady Ida! All of your fans downstairs hope you had a glorious chocolate-filled day.

The **blue madonna's** curious to know if there's anyone out there who *feels* **blue** like her. Samples of the **divine colour** may be left in the op/ed editor's box at *the Martlet*.

Gail – happy third... i love and adore you and wish that there will be many more like the last three. Frances

Satan: Doris is a much more appropriate name. And what the hell was Darwin thinking?

Inkberry: fortnight + one. Here's to more! Frans

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LETTERS

CONTINUED...

Remember we were the good guys

In an article purportedly designed to remember Canada's war history, Ben Isitt did a lot of forgetting. By listing only Canada's failings, and completely ignoring the character of the regimes that we fought against, Isitt implies that Canada and Germany were really the same, and all that really matters is the victory for free-education and health care.

However, those who bother to consider the past when writing about history will note a different story. Nazi Germany successfully butchered 6 million Jews, 13 million Soviet civilians and many others. Had they won the war, they would undoubtedly have tried to exterminate and enslave all the non-German peoples of the world. The Japanese Imperial Army pursued similar goals, butchering 8 million civilians throughout the course of the Greater East Asia War, with medieval cruelty. For example, with the full knowledge of the High Command, Japanese soldiers engaged in repeated gang rape of Asian women, and often pre-pubescent girls. It is a documented fact that on at least thousands of occasions, the soldiers killed their victims, by hammering metal rods up their vaginas, laughing at their torment.

These are the two nations that would have ruled the world, had Canada and its allies not won the war. Canada's conduct as a nation is not above reproach, and remembering its failures is essential to progress; ignoring incidents like the shameful internment of Japanese Canadians would be a grave error. But to remember only Canada's failings, and to forget entirely the character of the World Order the Axis powers sought to create, in the name of "Remembrance" is disgraceful.

Canadian veterans did not fight to create social programs amenable to campus leftists. They died to defeat regimes that were infinitely more abominable then Canada at its worst, and succeeded in saving civilized humanity. That is what we should be remembering.

Paul Harder

Planned Parenthood doesn't own up

I'm writing in response to the Nov. 9 article concerning pro-life pregnancy crisis centres and how they supposedly distribute harmful advice to women in distress. While I agree every pregnant woman should be presented with the best possible advice, I take issue with some of the charges put forth by the Planned Parenthood Federation of Canada.

1. Pro-life pregnancy centres intentionally "mislead women" by not presenting them with a full range of options (i.e. they do not discuss abortion). Of course PRO-LIFE pregnancy centres do not discuss abortion.

Would an animal rights group suggest I starve my dog? Would a peace activist suggest I shoot my neighbor because he gets on my nerves? No. So why is Planned Parenthood surprised that pro-life pregnancy centres do not consider elective abortion an option?

2. Pro-life pregnancy centres show pregnant women "graphic images to pressure [them] to keep their babies." Why is this wrong? If I were to consider dying my hair red (a 'radical' change), I would want to know if the colour suited me beforehand. Therefore, I might wear a red wig for a day and get honest opinions. This is logical. Likewise, a woman who considers aborting her child should know what abortion entails. By suggesting pregnant women should not be shown graphic images of aborted babies, Planned Parenthood claims these women cannot handle the truth. This is absurd.

3. Planned Parenthood aims to "create awareness of family planning issues."

How so? In the past, Planned Parenthood representatives have been found to have lied about abortion. For example, on November 17, 1995, Dr. Mary Campbell (medical director of Planned Parenthood of Metropolitan Washington) testified before the US Senate Judiciary Committee that, during partial-birth abortions, the baby is not killed by the abortion but by the anesthesia given to the mother intravenously beforehand. She was quickly rebuked by Dr. Norig Ellison (president of the 34,000-member American Society of Anesthesiologists) who testified that there is no scientific proof that anesthesia given to the mother can cause fetal death. Dr. Campbell later said she was just trying to simplify matters for Congress.

So what's my point? Women should be skeptical about advice from Planned Parenthood and do their own homework.

Lastly, women in Victoria who are pregnant and need help should know there are resources for them. If they turn to the Yellow Pages, they will find two very distinct categories of pregnancy crisis centres: those that will discuss abortion and those that will not. Both will claim to present women with the best advice. What a woman in crisis needs to do is wade through the mess of facts and lies and make a decision. It is my contention that Planned Parenthood, with its rhetoric and falsehoods, does not help women choose what is right: life.

Susan Birnie
President, Youth Protecting Youth

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